

# THE CHRONICLES

BREEDING POLO HUNTING A SPORTING JOURNAL SHOWING CHACING RACING

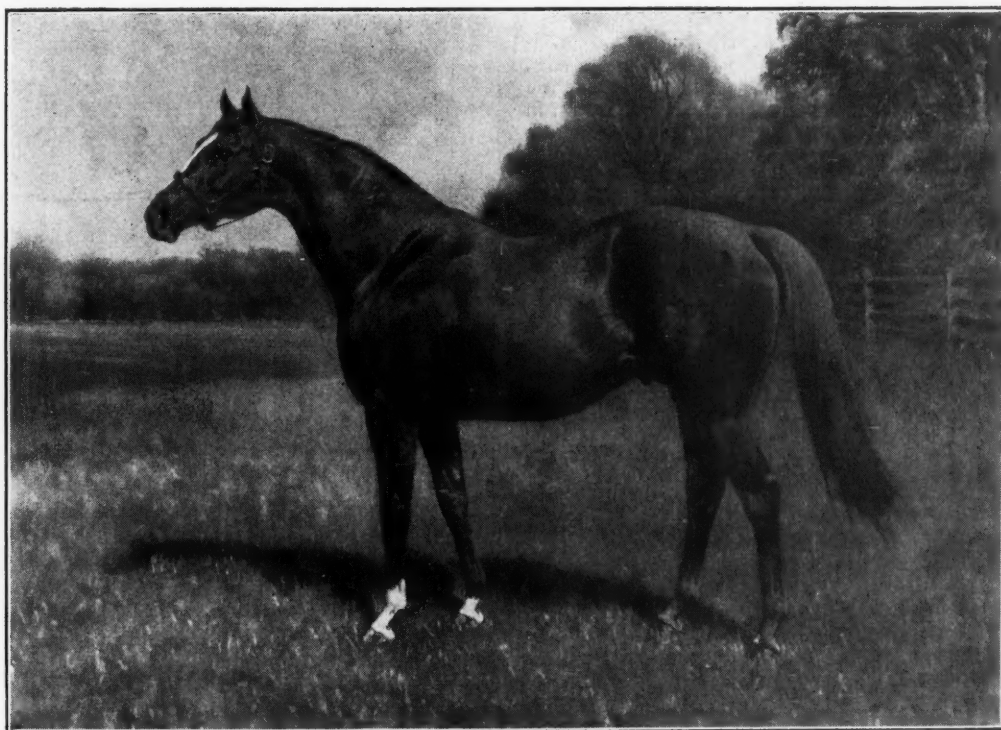
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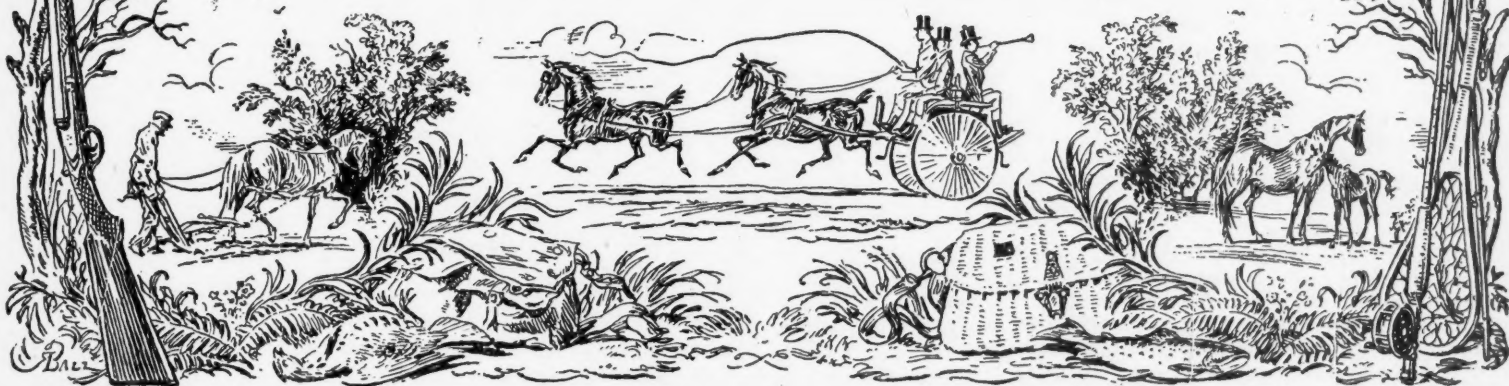
## EIGHT THIRTY

Painted by Franklin B. Voss



Courtesy of the Artist.

Details Page 4.



AMERICA'S HUNTS AUTHORITY

The Official Publication of the Masters of Foxhounds Association of America

## The Chronicle

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## CHRONICLE CONTRIBUTORS

In the year 1831 a young man named William T. Porter made the journey from his home in Hanover, New Hampshire to New York City. His purpose in so doing was to establish a weekly newspaper devoted to all varieties of sport and to the theatre. Although such a publication already existed in England—"Bell's Life in London"—nothing of the kind had ever before been attempted in this country. Added to this difficulty was the fact that in the north and east, where Puritanism lingered and Victorianism was just beginning, all forms of sport were frowned upon by a large portion of the population.

Mr. Porter was only twenty-one. He had neither money, friends nor business connections to come to his assistance. He had had no experience as a publisher and very little as either editor or printer. As a matter of fact he knew very little about either sport or the theatre.

Nevertheless, on December 10th, 1831, with an optimism probably unparalleled in the history of American publishing, Porter issued the first number of his weekly which he entitled "The Spirit of the Times and Life in New York". It became a name to conjure with in American sporting circles. After a shaky beginning and subsequent re-organization it acquired a wide circulation throughout the entire country, particularly in the south. It issued a splendid series of plates, which have been recently reproduced in portfolio edition. Not long ago the late John Hervey (Salvator) called it the greatest sporting magazine which has ever been published in this country.

The basis of Porter's success was his contributors. He succeeded in enlisting not only the interest, but also the pens of most of the leading sportsmen of the day. Every week they wrote—letters and essays, accounts and descriptions, approving and critical. They were not only sportsmen, but also men of broad culture and leaders in many other fields. As such they wrote with charm, urbanity and authority. On racing there were such men as Benjamin Ogle Tayloe of Mt. Airy, Virginia and The Octagon House, Washington, son and grandson of the two John Tayloes who were the predominant breeders of the eighteenth and early nineteenth century; Cadwallader Colden of New York, Editor of all the too short-lived New York Sporting Magazine, the most sumptuous sporting periodical of the century; John B. Irving of South Carolina, author of the history of South Carolina Jockey Club, the oldest Jockey Club in the world (1734); and Captain William J. Minor of Natchez, whose vast cotton plantations made him one of the richest men in the country.

Among foxhunters were John Stuart Skinner of Baltimore, founder of the American Turf Register (1829) and his son Col. Frederick G. Skinner of Rappahannock County, Virginia, T. G. Tucker of North Carolina, owner of the Bryon pack, and James Gordon of Mississippi. On shooting and fishing there was Henry William Herbert (Frank Forester), probably the greatest writer on these subjects which we have ever had in this country, and Hon. William Elliott whose articles, "Caroline Sports on Land and Water", were later published in book form.

These few names represent only a handful of the thousands who, by their writings, built up a really extraordinary circulation for those days, not only among devotees of sport, but also among an equally large number whose interest was wholly vicarious. Unfortunately the Civil War, which destroyed so many of the best things in our national life, put an end to the "old Spirit" many of its staff members, however, carried on for another thirty years through the medium of Turf, Field and Farm.

Over a hundred years after the Spirit of the Times made its initial appearance two young men, who probably never had heard of the paper, founded another which, as matters turned out, was to become both its spiritual and sporting successor. Stacy Lloyd recently wrote about this history-making event as follows:

"Fifteen years ago (September 17, 1937) the first issue of The Chronicle was launched with an imposing staff consisting of this department as publisher and editor and the late Gerald B. Webb, Jr. as managing editor. Printed with some antiquated machinery in the owner's country newspaper plant in Berryville, Va., the first issue had all the familiar symptoms and some not so familiar to the hardened obstetrician. Suffice it to say, when the first issue finally rolled off the press, tore through an old folding machine and got manhandled into mailbags at 3 a. m., that those most immediately concerned knew

they had produced something, although perhaps uncertain of what."

The first issue of eight pages contained an editorial dedicated to Tom M. Girdler, President of Republic Steel, one of the original subscribers, a picture of the wedding party of Mr. and Mrs. Melville Church II, now of Northcliff Farm, which included the present Mrs. Stephen Clark, Jr. and Mrs. Tom Waller, show reports of horses belonging to Mrs. John Hay Whitney, Mrs. D. N. Lee, Ernest Redmon and Peggy Hamilton and hunt races ridden by Jim Ryan, Johnny Harrison, Randy Duffy, Ray Woolfe, and Bobby Davis.

In the years that have followed The Chronicle has grown as the number and quality of its subscribers and contributors have grown. From past issues there comes to mind a host of names—foxhunters like W. Plunket Stewart, A. Henry Higginson, the Duke of Beaufort, Harry Worcester Smith, George Humphrey, Mason Houghland, De Courcy Wright, John Bowditch; beaglers like James Waldingfield Appleton, Richard V. N. Gambrell, Philip K. Crowe and Josiah H. Child; racing men like John Hervey, J. A. Estes, Joe Palmer, Bill Corum, and Tom Shehan; polo players like J. Watson Webb, Robert Strawbridge and Aidan Roark; horse show authorities like Adrian van Sinderen, Gustavus T. Kirby, General Charles V. Henry, Col. Harry Chamberlain and Harvey Ladew; sporting authors such as Gordon Grand, Stanley Reeves, James Boyd and J. B. Van Urk; poets and painters like Clifton Lisle, Vaughn Flannery, Franklin Voss, Jean Bowman, Smithson Broadhead, and C. W. Anderson; and foreign correspondents such as Fairfax Blakeborough, Stanislaus Lynch, John Hislop and Daphne Moore. The contributions of these and many others, equally as notable, have made The Chronicle what it is.

Continued On Page 16



## Very Warm for Christmas

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# BREEDING

AND

# Racing

A SECTION  
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS  
OF THE TURF



## British and American Bloodlines

### Racing Records of Sysonby and Colin Furnish Fuel In 1911 Controversy

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letter, written by the late Major Foxhall Daingerfield on Castleton Stud stationery, Lexington, Ky., was dated March 29, 1911. At an earlier date Algernon Daingerfield, assistant secretary of The Jockey Club, wrote to his father stating that in his opinion the English-bred Sysonby (1902, by Melton—\*Optime, by Orme) was a much better horse than the American-bred Colin (1905, by Commando—\*Pastorella, by Springfield). Major Daingerfield, who trained for his brother-in-law, the late James R. Keene, was staunch in his support of Colin as is clearly indicated in his letter. Mr. Keene, the owner of Castleton Stud and breeder of Colin and Sysonby, was a native of England who brought over here his preference for English-breds. He tolerated Colin only because he was out of the English mare, \*Pastorella. He did not approve of Colin's grandsire, Domino because his were purely American bloodlines.)

Today, 41 years after Major Daingerfield wrote this letter, the Sysonby male line has disappeared; while Alsab is the only stallion of consequence that can trace his top line back to the mighty Colin.)

Dear Algie,

I do not regard the dead heat of Sysonby by Race King at the difference of weight and age a handicap or anything.

I do regard his defeat by Artful and Tradition in the Futurity—when he was 1st at the half, with Artful, Tanya and Tradition behind him, and was passed by both Artful and Tradition. "Artful winning in a common canter by 3 lengths" according to the Guide, and Tradition carrying the same pounds, (not even asking her sex allowance) beating him for the place.

It is certain that Sysonby was the best colt of his year, and he may have been the best, that year of either sex. It is equally certain that he never saw the day when he was the equal of Colin—until the unfortunate mishap to Colin—that had they been of the same age, he could have made Colin stretch his neck.

While the time test in a single race is not a reliable criterion, a uniform series of winnings of the same races over the same track, even in different years, especially under heavier weight, is.

#### The Brighton Junior Stakes

1904	1907
Sysonby, 112 lbs., 1st.	Colin, 127, 1st.
Jonquil, 107 lbs., 2nd.	Chapultepec, 122, 2nd.
*Britisher, 112, 3rd.	Bar None, 112, 3rd.
*Veto, 122, 4th.	
Time: 1.13	Time: 1.12 2/5.

15 lbs. weight 3/5 second time and beating better horses. Colin scores.

#### Saratoga Special

1904	1907
Sysonby, 1st.	Colin, 1st.
Hot Shot, 2nd.	Uncle, 2nd.
*Britisher, 3rd.	all others drawn.
1.07 for the 5 1/2 furlongs.	Time: 1.12 6 furlongs.

Colin required only 5 seconds for the 1/2 furlongs (rate 20 seconds to the quarter, while the record for a sprint of a quarter is 21 1/4 seconds. Equal weight (122 lbs.). Colin scores again.

#### Coney Island Futurity

1904	1907
Artful, 114 lbs., 1st.	Colin, 125, 1st.
Tradition, 127, 2nd.	Bar None, 117, 2nd.
Sysonby, 127, 3rd.	Chapultepec, 117, 3rd.
Tanya, 124, 4th.	Fan Play, 119, 4th.
	Melick, 119, 5th.

"Half mile from home the leaders comprised Sysonby, Artful, Tanya and Tradition." Good start won in a canter by three lengths, neck between 2nd and 3rd.

Time: 1.11 4/5.

Sysonby did not start in a 5 furlong race at 2 years, nor did he start at 2 years in one of 7 furlongs. The limit of distance for the age.

Colin won the National Stallion Stakes at 5 furlongs in .58 seconds, carrying 122 lbs., beating Bar None, Ben Fleet, King James, Smoker. Won easily by 3 lengths. He won the Champagne Stakes 7 furlongs with 122 lbs. in 1.23 beating Stamina, others withdrawn.

Only one race in which both Sysonby and Colin were competing with the horses of their respective years is shown by the Guide.

#### The Tidal Stakes, Sheephead Bay, N. Y.

1905	1908
Sysonby, 126 lbs., 1st.	Colin, 126 lbs., 1st.
Agile, 2nd.	Dorante, 2nd.
Cairngorn, 3rd.	Stamina, 3rd.

Each horse ran 15 races in his career, Colin won 15 and was never defeated.

Sysonby was the greatest colt of a year in which the fillies he met were better than the colts.

Colin, the greatest of either sex in a year in which the colts were generally better than the fillies.

The success of Castleton rests on the blood of Mannie Gray and Himyar borne in Domino's veins.

Domino had largest percent of high class winners, until surpassed by his most American son, Commando, sire of the largest percent of stakes winners to foals begotten of any horse that ever lived in any age or any country. He had almost as much \*Glencoe through his dam as through his sire.

It was a tragedy that both Domino and Commando died so young. Yet their few representatives are nearly all owned by Mr. Keene.

That Mannie Gray so intensely inbred to \*Glencoe had much to do is shown outside of our stud, as well as in it.

A daughter of Mannie Gray and own sister to Domino (Correction) threw Yankee to the (cover of) Hanover an intensely \*Glencoe bred horse. A daughter of Mannie Gray threw Hamburg to the cover of this same inbred \*Glencoe horse Hanover.

The dam of Hamburg to St. Simon threw a colt and 2 fillies, the three worth 30 cents. It wasn't Lady Reel's fault, for she had thrown Hamburg the best horse in a decade to the cover of American Hanover.

With two lines to Mannie Gray, one through her grandson Disguise and another through Hamburg we get Maskette.

From a daughter of Domino his son, we get Sweep, by the little Ben Brush, despised by English purists as tracing to no English tap root recognized by Bruce Lowe.

Commando, the best race horse and best sire from Domino, has more American breeding through his dam than all the rest.

The claim that the English mares have contributed as much as the American Domino to Mr. Keene's success is nauseating to me and demonstrably untrue.

The winning by the first 3-year-old to score in a great handicap, was by a son of St. Leonards out of Lady Invercauld by Powhattan (a brother of Parole).

Delhi, by Ben Brush (a horse without a family number) is out of Veva, by Mortemer and she out of Lizzie Lucas.

The English claim greater stamina and ability to stay at long distances, yet they say \*Glencoe had more speed than staying in his pedigree.

They claim that Timoleon, Boston, Lexington, were of impure blood. Yet Timoleon was an unbeaten 4 miler. Boston won more 4 mile heat races than any horse that ever lived—Lexington and Le Comte, the only horses capable of beating each other in 4 mile heat races; the latter being out of Reel by \*Glencoe.

The 2 horses capable of competing at 4 miles at the beginning of the war 1861-5, Planet and Lightning, out of a daughter and by a son respectively of the same Boston. The 3 horses Asteroid, Kentucky and Norfolk all by Lexington and out of \*Glencoe mares, the only horses capable of giving each other a 4 mile race at the close of the war.

The greatest 4 mile mare under weight, Idlewild, a Lexington-Glencoe bred mare and an own sister to Spendthrift's dam; and Idlewild to Imp, Australian produced Wildidle, 4 miles in 7:25; and Aerolite own sister—to Idlewild produced—Fellowcraft, 4 miles 7:19 1/2 and her last a gelding in California to run in 7:16 1/2 has 4 or 5 lines to Lexington. While Ten Broeck onetime holder of all records at even distances—1, 2, 3 and 4 miles also 1 1/2 and 1 3/4 when he left the turf—full of this same tainted blood. Yet you find men who never had a horse and never could have done so, saying from the bottom of their haunches, the only portions of their anatomy with which they ever think, that the strain from the old cart horse, Timoleon (a horse unbeaten at all distances, 1, 2, 3, 4 miles) is destroying the Thoroughbred and that it has not bred on.

I am almost obliged to write a book to show up these ridiculous fallacies, started by Voorhis and taken up by poor Wm. Merry and inserted in his book in Voorhis' own oft repeated words.

It is not strange that some American pedigrees are "unknown" and that they may have been given erroneously in a Stud Book, the first one of which was issued only a few years after a great war in which horse pedigrees in Virginia were not what we were thinking about but that any reasoning being can say that a line, that has sent the stayers down all the years of racing history since the founder lived, is impure to any great extent is more than I can understand.

Don't all know that the system of short races has developed speed rather than stamina and by a reversal of the system horses of the present day bred in America, could go 4 miles faster than ever before.

Your devoted father,

F. A. D.

## FOR SALE -- BROODMARES

Mr. F. Ambrose Clark is giving up breeding and the following mares are for sale.

IRISH PENNANT, b. m., foaled 1944 by \*Bahram—Minant.

Foaled a filly in 1951 and a colt in 1952. This mare is now in foal to BY JIMMINY.

WHIRL COLUMBIA, b. m., foaled in 1946 by Whirlaway—Columbiana.

Foaled a colt in 1951 and a filly in 1952. Now in foal to BETTER SELF.

FLYING SHIP, b. m., foaled 1946 by War Admiral—Bird Flower.. Now in foal to Prince Simon.

These mares have had nothing to race.

Address inquiries to:

Clinton E. White, agent

c/o F. AMBROSE CLARK

Westbury, L. I., N. Y.

## Most Prosperous Year For Racing

**Increases In Attendance, Betting, Purse Distribution; Attack On Racing Defeated**

Frank Talmadge Phelps

The year of 1952 will go down as the most prosperous in racing history.

Attendance at race tracks and pari-mutuel revenue are both expected to hit new records. Purse distribution will probably also attain a new high mark, although this may be a close thing.

To get the sordid financial details out of the way, about \$1,900,000,000 is expected to have passed through the mutual machines by the end of the year, according to the estimate of the Thoroughbred Racing Associations. This would represent a whopping increase of 19 per cent in the handle over 1951 figures.

The same source reports that about \$120,000,000 will accrue to State treasuries through pari-mutuel taxes by December 31, in those areas where racing has been legalized.

Pari-mutuel taxes are in addition to the property and income taxes that tracks, breeders, horsemen and employees pay just like other businesses and citizens. And this amounts to no small figure from an industry with \$700,000,000 in property investments and a payroll of 65,000 employees drawing \$235,000,000 annually.

Best "guesstimate" of the total purses offered to horsemen in 1952 runs in the neighborhood of \$56,000,000, just over last year's record of \$55,551,124. But these figures are somewhat deceptive, and horsemen improved their position during the year more than their increase in income would indicate.

### H. B. P. A.

Through strikes and strike threats, the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association firmly established its right to participate in decisions involving condition books and purse distribution. With rare exceptions, the race tracks themselves were more ready to concede this right of negotiation to the horsemen than were the racing commissions.

Both the HBPA and the tracks have occasionally chosen to be adamant about minor and even silly details, forgetting that both are dependent upon the public for their ultimate support. But on the whole, in view of the bitterness of the disagreements and the excessive pub-

licity given to these disputes, both sides have conducted themselves with admirable restraint and a desire to be fair.

### Attendance

Speaking of the public, about 27,500,000 fans will have attended race tracks by the close of the season, according to the TRA estimate. This would be an increase of 12 per cent over last year; and is a more important figure than the monetary statistics, in the long run.

As long as racing can attract nearly one person out of every six in the country, we do not have to fear too much for the future of the sport.

### Oregon Threat

One serious attack on racing was beaten back in Oregon. There a referendum that would have outlawed racing, by lumping pari-mutuel wagering with lotteries and bookmaking, resulted in a heartening 2 to 1 majority in favor of racing. During the heated campaign, it was charged that Oregon was the testing ground for a national drive against racing. If so, the test was a flat failure.

However, Thoroughbred racing cannot claim the full credit for defeating this track measure. The dog tracks of Oregon were heavy contributors to the cause.

It is too bad that such an emergency is needed before two sports with so many similar problems can get together for even an exchange of views.

### Public Support

Public support of racing, as reflected in both attendance and pari-mutuel play, may be attributed largely to two factors: Confidence in the sport, and its continued high entertainment value.

By policing itself, racing has managed to survive without serious scandal a period when the once-fair name of so-called "amateur" athletics has been smeared with bribes, "fix" attempts and the open connivance of officials in rule violations. To the very efficient Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau, an offshoot of the TRA, must go most of the credit for keeping racing's nose clean.

Unfortunately, the officials charged with enforcing the rules of racing are inconsistent in their interpretation and application of those rules. And, it must be confessed, the rules themselves are sometimes inconsistent.

A trainer whose horse has been stimulated may be suspended in one State, even though everyone agrees that the trainer himself was not responsible for the incident. The officials of another State may spend all their time making a great show of investigating and harassing everybody within their jurisdiction, without accomplishing anything except to make themselves the laughing stock of all concerned. Both types of officials have been seen in action this year, along with a vast majority of men honestly striving to administer the rules for the best interests of racing as a whole.

The entertainment value of 1952 racing has been high. As perhaps only the publicity writers realize, the one-time "Sport of Kings" is ultimately dependent on the support of the common man, who today

## Canvas of Eight Thirty Done By Franklin B. Voss

The painting on the cover of The Chronicle this week is Franklin B. Voss' study of Eight Thirty, perhaps, the most successful son of that great sire Pilate.

George D. Widener, who seems to have the "luck of the Irish" when it comes to buying at the sales—you recall he gave \$4,500 for the yearling which he named Battlefield—got Eight Thirty from the sales ring, although in a different manner.

In 1935, at the W. R. Coe Dispersal he paid \$6,000 for Dinner Time (High Time—Seaplane, by Man o'War), and the mare was in foal to Pilate at the time. The resulting foal was Eight Thirty.

Eight Thirty won 14 stakes from 2 on through 5, earning a total of \$155,475 at a time when purses were quite a bit smaller than those of today. He also equalled the track record for 1 1-8 miles in the Massachusetts 'Cap.

Entering the stud in 1942, Eight Thirty got in his first crop the stakes winners Condiment, Colony Boy and Outoftheblue. Since that time Eight Thirty has been among the leading sires and has gotten 27 more stakes winners to add to his credit.

Not the least among these latter stakes performers is the fleet Bolero. This son of Eight Thirty set a world mark of 1.08 1-5 for 3-4 mile and a world record for 7-8 mile in 1.21.

In the volume Thoroughbred Types we are informed that "In America, the daughters of \*Rock Sand have bred more successfully than his sons—Man o'War, Hourless, Mad Hatter, Chatterton, Dunlin...being sons of \*Rock Sand mares."

However it must be taken into consideration that this book was printed in 1926 and that it wasn't until 1928 that Friar Rock was to get a son out of The Tetrarch mare \*Herodias which was due to bring the \*Rock Sand male line into a place of prominence among bloodlines. That horse was Pilate, sire of Eight Thirty, which is continuing the upswing of the \*Rock Sand male line.

has an ever increasing number of forms of entertainment to amuse him at less cost and trouble than going to a race track requires.

### Top Horses

This year we have seen two great horses in action, in the unbeaten 2-year-old Native Dancer and the once-beaten 3-year-old filly Real Delight; another near-great 3-year-old miss in Real Delight's stablemate A Gleam; and an unusual number of fine three-year-old colts and older male handicappers. The two-year-old fillies were below par; but even that division provided several interesting contests and one colorful performer in the diminutive Sweet Patootie. Only the sprint division and that of the older handicapped mares failed to furnish anything especially memorable.

### Steeplechasing

Steeplechasing, though continuing to operate in a restricted area, enjoyed one of its better seasons, from the standpoint of the competition offered. And the hunt meetings, fountainheads of the amateur branch of the sport, rarely if ever experienced a better year.

### Turf Race

The inaugural running of the Washington, D. C., International was the most interesting race of the season, both for the race itself and for the future international competition it foreshadowed. The victory of the aptly named English invader \*Wilwyn in that Laurel Park feature proved that foreign horses can be flown here for one contest with a reasonable promise of success.

Grass racing, similar to the turf racing conducted abroad, seems to be experiencing a sudden upsurge of popularity. This appears almost certain to attract more foreign horses.

### Calumet

Calumet Farm and its great stallion Bull Lea again headed the owners' and sire lists in 1952. That can hardly be called news, but the

## Recent Newmarket Sales Bring Lowest Total Since 1946

Baron de Rothchild thwarted many attempts by American and Latin-American dollars thirsty for English bloodstock at the Newmarket December Sales. However even with these foreign greenbacks the total for the sale was just under 500,000 guineas (\$1,475,000), making it the lowest since 1946.

Humphrey S. Finney of Fasig-Tipton Company managed to secure several animals for his patrons, among which was a bay colt foaled on April 19, 1952 by Big Game out of the Columbo mare, Muscat for Larry MacPhail. The bay mare has already produced two stakes winners in Khatyla and Devon Vintage; so it looks like Bowie's President is scouting for another General Staff.

In the interest of Mrs. Joseph Walker, Mr. Finney gave \$18,000 for the 4-year-old chestnut mare High Stepper, by Hyperion—Show A Leg, by Blue Peter, which is in foal to the Irish Derby and St. Leger winner Sayajirao.

The 8-year-old chestnut mare, Lady Angela, wrung from Finney the comment, "... looked like the nearest thing to diamonds I ever saw". However admiration was not enough as the British Bloodstock Agency went to \$32,500 for this daughter of Hyperion—Sister Sarah, by Abbots Trace—Sarita, by Swynford—Molly Desmond, a daughter of the famed Pretty Polly.

Prince Aly Khan, acting on the behalf of Mrs. Cooper Person, bought for \$22,000 the 7-year-old bay mare Lugano. This mare is a half-sister to the dam of the Derby winner Tulyar, being by Nearco—Herina, by Blandford—Athasi, and is in foal to Precipitation.

The Anglo Irish Agency, acting for Bwamazon Farm, Kentucky, bid to \$20,000 for the 7-year-old brown mare Windsor Whisper, in foal to Nimbus. This mare is by Windsor Slipper and is out of the Son-in-Law mare Inking. Windsor Whisper, a stakes winner at 3, is the dam of the 2-year-old winner King's Story, and she leaves behind in England a yearling by My Babu and a weanling by Nimbus.

Finney also reported that it is likely that the Aga Khan will send not more than 10 or 12 yearlings to the Saratoga sales of 1953. It will be interesting to see if they will receive the attention of the first lot.

season would not seem official without such an announcement.

### Sales Rings

Yearling averages, which are to the horse breeder as much of a prosperity index as purse distribution is for the horse owner, will probably show a slight rise over last year's average, when all the figures are totaled. In general, the well bred yearlings sold well; the fairly well bred ones sold fairly well; and the poorly bred ones were hard to sell at any price.

But the bloodstock auctions showed definite signs of approaching the saturation point. It was still possible to sell a well bred young broodmare for a high figure. Stallions, however, seemed to be attracting little interest unless they were truly outstanding. And a number of the less well bred and aged broodmares failed to pay their vaning charges.

This perennial problem of overproduction will eventually solve itself by the simple process of economics. If a man loses enough money over a long enough period, he will either improve the quality of his breeding stock or get out of horse breeding altogether.

### Fire Destruction

The only other cloud on the otherwise rosy horizon of racing's 1953 prospects arises as smoke from the carcasses of nearly 150 horses that were cremated in stable fires during 1952. Horsemen, track officials and racing commissions have seemed strangely indifferent to these holocausts.

But there are signs that four disastrous conflagrations this year may have shocked them out of their quiet complacency.

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## FOR SALE

**Traublea, 3-year-old brown filly, 15.3,**  
by Straight Lead—Traublow, by \*Traumer.

This filly is very quiet, well broken and a good jumper. She would make an excellent mount for a child or small girl.

**Brown yearling filly, Hunter's Blow,**  
by \*Hunters Moon IV—Traublow.

Well broken and quiet, this filly shows speed. Among the winning progeny of her sire is Moonrush, winner of over \$350,000, his latest winning effort being in the Bay Meadows 'Cap in which he established a new track record of 2.01 3/5 for 1 1/4 miles.

For further information contact:

**MRS. SIMON T. PATTERSON**

5365 Darlington Road

Pittsburgh 17, Pa.

## Breeding Notes

### Native Dancer, Grey Eagle and 15 Years of Grey Horses

Karl Koontz

Not since the days of Grey Eagle has a grey horse enjoyed the popularity among American turf folk that has been accorded A. G. Vanderbilt's Native Dancer. The color grey, at one time frowned upon, is attributed in Thoroughbreds to Alcock's Arabian or the White Alcock Arabian. However, it wasn't until the appearance on the English racing scene of The Tetrarch, and subsequently his get, did it receive even favorable notice.

More recently the Aga Khan's Derby winner \*Mahmoud fanned the flames which by that time were sorely in need of tending, and when imported to this country introduced many top flight greys which helped purge the stain which previously imported grey stallions had failed to accomplish.

All this talk of greys set us to wondering just how many horses of this hue had been stakes winners since Grey Eagle's time, and just what kind of horse this Grey Eagle had been.

As we pursued this first line, much in the manner of a pack of hounds working a cold line, we became so ensnared by the wiles of this "fox" that we pulled up at the close of 1937. However in looking over our "back-trail", we found that we had a 15 year period to size up in regard to grey horses.

From the first of January 1937 to the close of the racing season in 1951, there were 99 grey or roan horses which earned stakes brackets. However, only 29 of this original number were, either durable enough, or good enough to hold their class for more than one season.

The most durable of the greys racing over the past 15 years was First Fiddle (\*Royal Minstrel—Rueful, by \*St. Germans), which being capable enough to win stakes from 1943 on through 1946, earned \$398,610, to secure for him the honor of being the leading money winning grey horse.

In an attempt to see at just which age grey horses are most apt to win their first stakes, we dug a little deeper into the records. Over the past 15-year period, 35 grey 2-year-olds won added money events; 31 grey 3-year-olds; 14 4-year-olds; 9 5-year-olds; 5 6-year-olds; 3 7-year-olds; 1 8-year-old and 1 9-year-old. Sixty-one received their grey coloring from their sires, while the remaining 41 had it contributed by the bottom half of their pedigrees. Three horses—Grey Flight, Pelayo, and Steadfast—had this color contributed by both sides of their "house."

The peak, or booming years for grey stakes winners in this country, came in 1946 and '47, when 15 greys took "titled" events. Mighty Story (\*Mahmoud—Little Lie, by \*Sickle) was the leading wage earner in '46 with \$63,975; while in '47, the imported Talon had the honor all to himself as he won \$117,775.

With 1946 the top year, it isn't surprising to find that \*Mahmoud (\*Blenheim II—Mah Mahal, by Gainsborough) was the leading sire that season, with grey stakes winners in Keynote, Mahmoudess, Mighty Story, and Mother contributing toward the \$683,025 which his get earned that season. In the same year, he was also the leading sire of 2-year-olds, when his get won \$283,983.

Undoubtedly the success of this great import had much to do with the rise in popularity of grey racers, a movement which Native Dancer is skyrocketing.

For an answer to the history of Grey Eagle, we are indebted to William Trotter Porter. Grey Eagle was foaled in April 1835 near Lexington and was bred by H. T. Duncan. His pedigree—Woodpecker—Ophalia, by Wild Medley—was considered the finest, as Woodpecker

was reputedly one of the best 4-milers bred in Kentucky up to that period, while Ophelia was a very successful broodmare.

Mr. Duncan sold Grey Eagle as a yearling for \$1,500 to Miles W. Dickey of Georgetown, who turned the colt over to Sidney Burbridge, considered one of Kentucky's leading turfmen. Mr. Burbridge handled Grey Eagle during his entire racing career.

As a 3-year-old in training, the son of Woodpecker received a shoulder injury which was given a great deal of credit for the defeats the colt suffered in his first two races. After these two efforts he was taken out of training and did not go postward until fall, when on October 17, 1838 at Louisville, he won his third start—winning in 2 straight heats.

The times recorded—3.41 and 3.43 1-2—brought sharp protest from all sides, because as one writer put it, "3.41 never has been made in the United States". Others thought that the course had been "short", but when it was remeasured it was found to be 12 yards longer than the required mile.

This brings to mind the arguments presented when a track record is set in California; all the easterners immediately think of every excuse for its being made except giving credit to the horse.

On October 22, Grey Eagle won again in straight heats before a great admiring throng at the Oakland Course at Louisville. After this victory, he was taken with distemper and didn't go postward until the following spring.

During the winter, Mr. Dickey died and the estate sold the grey racer for \$6,200 to A. L. Shotwell of Georgetown, with the horse remaining in the hands of Trainer Burbridge.

The new owner kept Grey Eagle eligible for the sweepstakes race, which was to develop into the first Wagner-Grey Eagle races. Wagner won the race in straight, but severely contested 4-mile heats with Grey Eagle 2nd.

Beyond an interesting contest turf historians of the time felt that the race proved that Kentucky was breeding excellent stock. Grey Eagle although defeated, had shown high quality.

Five days later the two stallions met again, with Grey Eagle winning the first heat; in the 2nd, Wagner triumphed. However, in William Porter's words, "This was without exception the most game and spirited race we ever witnessed. The heat was Wagner's and while we accord to him all the reputation so brilliantly won after a bloody struggle of near 3 miles, we feel bound to express the belief that for an untired 4-year-old Grey Eagle's performance is without parallel in the annals of American Turf. The last 3 miles of a second heat, in a second 4-mile race the same week were run in 5.35 and the 16th mile in 1.45".

In the third heat of this famous race, Grey Eagle broke down and was retired to stud where he was successful to a small degree, but eventually was sold out of the state.

It's doubtful if any horses of today could stand the gaff to which race horses of Grey Eagle's day were exposed, but one thing is certain, Native Dancer is a new shot in the arm to the admirers of a grey horse.

It is hoped that Native Dancer will step in to take the place now held by the ageing grey sire \*Mahmoud, when he is retired to stud. At the present time First Fiddle is the only stallion of the previously mentioned list of greys that is carrying on creditably; however Mighty Story is making a good beginning.

## On Ground Level Mangers

### Digestion, Cleanliness and Economy Are Important Factors To Be Considered

Shillelagh

In the past there has been a lot of controversy over ground level managers and the ever conservative Englishman has been very quick to criticize this comparatively new style manger without ever really weighing up the advantages.

Half a century ago all horses lived in stalls racked up day and night and it was in these stalls that the manger built up 3'-6" from the ground originated. In those days it would have been very dangerous to have ground level managers for fear of a horse casting himself by getting a foreleg over his halter rope while feeding.

When loose boxes came into vogue the same style of iron manger's were built in the same position merely because of the precedent created by the stall managers. Surely in these enlightened days it would be a wise thing, after reviewing the overwhelming arguments in favour of ground level managers, to scrap the antiques of the stall days and bring our stables up to date. In many hunting and racing establishments this has already been done.

Briefly the advantages of ground level feeding revolve round the fact that this was the way intended by Nature. A horse eating from the ground does so far more slowly, and consequently he masticates his food better, than when feeding with his head up. Digestion is greatly aided by the food constantly falling back into the grinding mill of his teeth and by the saliva flowing far more readily when eating with his head down. The other main point is that the food has to be carried up his throat instead of just falling down it and digestive juices are given a better chance to act and the grace-

ful curve of his neck makes an easier passage for the food than when he is doubled up at the top of his neck as seen when a horse is feeding from a raised manger.

Critics of the ground level manger say nothing about digestion, (which is the really important thing when all is said and done), but produce two arguments that:—

(a) A horse will dung in a ground level manger and

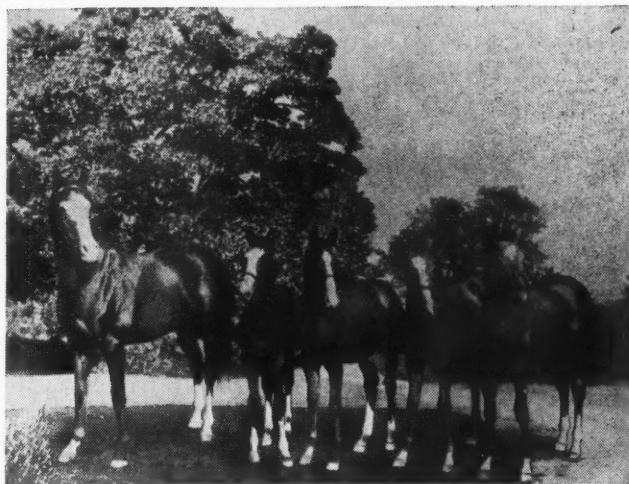
(b) it is a strain on his forelegs through stretching to feed.

In reply I may say that I know of an extremely dirty young blood colt which has a manger on the ground in one corner of his box and it is very seldom that droppings are found in it. No, once a horse becomes used to feeding from them he will not dung in them unless inadvertently. The answer to the second argument is that Nature plainly doesn't seem to agree.

Ground managers are best fixed in a corner of the box and the type recommended is of the kitchen sink variety. These are quite cheap and a damp cloth keeps them spotlessly clean and a clean manger goes a long way towards making food more acceptable to a finicky shy feeder. These porcelain sink managers should be fairly deep and if possible have an overlapping edge. If a horse is in the habit of throwing his feed about, a round stone or two in the manger will cure him of the habit. Actually it will be found that a horse will not spill his feed from a ground level manger nearly so much as from a raised one.

To sum up, the ground level manger is by far the better proposition from all angles—digestion, cleanliness and economy.

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## Racing Notes

### Thoroughbred Racing Associations 11th Annual Convention

#### Easy Mark

At its annual convention the Thoroughbred Racing Associations of the United States, Inc. elected John A. Morris as president to succeed Alfred G. Vanderbilt. Carlton F. Burke, of Santa Anita Park, was re-elected vice-president. Also returned to their positions were James Butler of the Empire City Racing Association, as secretary, and Eugene F. Mori, of Garden State Park, as treasurer.

The convention was in session for two days, December 3, and 4, and some 100 representatives of 32 of the 47 tracks comprising the membership of the organization attended. Many of the problems of racing were discussed, but the keynote of the meeting was sounded by the outgoing president, Alfred G. Vanderbilt, when he said, "Now was no time to relax." The words could not have been more appropriate since racing enjoyed its greatest year not only in betting but in a 12 percent increase in attendance, and held the confidence of the public more than at any time in the history of the sport. Mr. Vanderbilt attributed this to the far-sighted, progressive track operators who for the past 11 years have co-operated and have spent millions in making racing one of the cleanest and best regulated of spectator sports. The most important factors in securing the confidence of the public were the TRA Code of Standards and the Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau.

Spencer Drayton, the president of the Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau, also warned those in attendance against "apathy on the part of some racing officials to serious racing irregularities," and said recent events in other sports should be an example to racing.

During 1952 the TRPB handled 879 investigations and during the past seven years some 7,400 cases have been investigated by the organization. As a result of these investigations false rumors were not permitted to spread to the detriment of racing and the people in it. As of November 1, 1952 the organization took the fingerprints of 61,839 individuals actively engaged in racing, and they have been filed with the bureau. TRPB tattooed 35,325 Thoroughbreds and the main function now is to tattoo the 2-year-olds which arrive at the tracks. During the past 3 years 32,750 inquiries from member tracks and racing commissions have been handled. The program of Investigating, Fingerprinting, Tattooing, Special Reports, Racing's National Information Bureau and Security are permanent functions of the TRPB.

M. J. Alhadeff, general manager of the Washington Jockey Club, reported on the defeat of the Oregon proposal to ban racing and brought out a most interesting fact. The anti-racing campaign was well or-

ganized and supplied with plenty of money. Here Mr. Alhadeff reveals a starting bit of information and we quote:

"Where did the anti-racing forces get it? We of the Washington Jockey Club were fortunate in being able to determine the principal sources of the anti-racing finances.

"This money, gentlemen, was supplied by theatre interests. We immediately relayed the information to our friends in Oregon.

"Our findings were substantiated by the fact that booths, manned by workers for the Council of Churches, were set up in theatre lobbies to secure signatures for the anti-racing amendment. (These workers were paid, which, incidentally, is contrary to law.) In addition, theatres ran vicious anti-racing trailers on their screens. Those trailers were used in 242 theatres and alone represented \$100,000 worth of advertising."

It should be quite evident to all concerned with racing that the competition for the entertainment dollars is extremely keen, and if theatre interests would stoop to use the Council of Churches to ban a sport in an effort to gain those dollars, racing truly cannot afford to relax.

At the annual dinner of the TRA Maj. R. M. Macdonald-Buchanan, a steward of the English Jockey Club, addressed the members on the history of the English Jockey Club. He pointed out that the English did not claim to have been the first Jockey Club. The first club by that name was formed in 1734 in Charleston, S. C. He lauded the success of the American Thoroughbred on the English tracks and especially the success of William Woodward's horses, which since 1928 have won every big race in England except the Two Thousand Guineas and the Derby, both of which he lost by a neck with Prince Simon. He also stated that the amendment of the Jersey Act has made it possible for the English to breed to the best American bloodlines.

Governor Theodore R. McKeldin of Maryland spoke on world affairs to the members of the TRA, but had this to say about racing, "Like other games of skill in which participation is a profession, horse racing is a business as well as a sport. Through the years the participants have learned that good sportsmanship is good business."

In reviewing the TRA convention one cannot fail to see a bright outlook for racing in 1953. The sport today is on as sound a footing as it ever was, and with international racing projecting itself on the scene to give it another boost, the game is reaching for new horizons. It is the duty and obligation of the TRA and all racing organizations to do everything in their power to preserve the confidence that the American public has placed in the sport of racing.

#### Easy Markings

John D. Schapiro, president of Laurel Race Track, Laurel, Md., was elected to the board of directors of the TRA. . . . George D. Widener, chairman of The Jockey Club, the first speaker on the TRA forum, urged the track to use all possible means to prevent fires in the stable areas. He also advocated more weight-for-age races, which he stated were good for the breeder and the horseman, although not good for betting races. . . . Larry MacPhail recommended that all pay their respects to J. S. Perlman of the Morning Telegraph for his work in the solution of the problem which threatened a strike at Arlington Park. . . . Cary C. Boshamer, South Carolina sportsman, who will become the new president of Pimlico, attended the TRA meeting and announced that the Preakness, second jewel in the "triple crown", will have a \$100,000 purse in 1953, and that a new international event the "Marylander" will be run at the historic course, following the running of the Washington, D. C. international at Laurel by approximately two weeks. . . . Walter Donovan, general manager of Garden State Park, N. J. concurred with what we have been preaching in these columns for some time. According to Mr. Donovan the comfort of the racing fans was the paramount objective of any track and he knew of no ideas that would increase attendance by using "promotional gadgets, circus activities, or other devices extraneous to the sport itself." He expressed our credo very pointedly by saying, "I am firmly convinced that the appeal of racing as a sport is entirely sufficient within itself. Increase in the attendance at tracks depends directly, I believe, upon the type of show we present, the facilities we offer and the concern we have for the comfort and convenience of our patrons."

#### STALLION AT AVON

The well-known sire, \*Rhodes Scholar, joined the ranks of the stallions at the Lookover Stallion Station in Avon, N. Y. this fall. The 19-year-old son of Pharoos—Book Law had 36 winners in 1952 for a total of \$110,832.—Michael Kelley.

#### NEW NSHA MEMBERS

Five new members were elected to the National Steeplechase and Hunt Association at the December meeting of the Board of Stewards. All active in the sport of steeplechasing, the new members are: Mrs. Stephen C. Clark, Jr., Mrs. Ogden Phipps, William M. Duryea, James F. McHugh and A. D. Plamondon, 3rd.

The number of women members of the association has been increased to five, with the addition of Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Phipps. Mrs. Phipps is the owner of Oedipus, which is considered by many as the leading contemporary steeplechaser in this country. Mrs. Clark has raced a number of jumpers each year, the most prominent of which was Trough Hill, winner of The Grand National Steeplechase in 1950.

Mr. Duryea has been actively engaged in the sport for a number of years and his colors are regularly seen on the infield courses of the major tracks. Well known in polo circles, Mr. McHugh is attaining a

### Meadow Brook Club's Debut In Indoor Polo Proves Successful

#### Bill Briordy

The Meadow Brook Club's debut in indoor polo was a most successful one on Saturday night, Dec. 6, as the Westbury, L. I., trio turned back Al Parsells' Ramapo Polo Club, 10 to 7, in the feature match of the weekly double-header at the Squadron A Armory.

Stringing out its attack in fine style and holding off a spirited but futile second-half bid by the losers, Meadow Brook's side of Phil Iglehart, Zenas Colt and Henry Lewis 3d turned in a workmanlike job in a match that produced particularly keen play.

Outplayed by Ramapo in the fourth chukker, Meadow Brook began the match with a 3-goal allowance. Four goals, one via a pony, and the 3-goal handicap in the opening period gave the victors a margin that Ramapo was never able to overcome.

Iglehart, returning to the indoor game after an absence of more than fifteen years, who is the brother of Stewart, 10-goal outdoor ace, was a strong No. 1 for Meadow Brook. Phil paced his team's attack with 3 goals. Colt was an ever-present No. 2, while Lewis' game at back was strong.

Trailing by 9-4 entering the final chukker, Ramapo moved up to 9-7 as Phil Brady stroked 2 markers and George Haas hit 1. But Lewis clinched matters when he hit the backboard on a pretty nearside backhand with 1:44 of the game remaining.

Ramapo stormed the Meadow Brook goal and came close several times but was unable to shave the victors' advantage further. Brady and Parsells, 9-goaler, showed the way for Ramapo with 3 goals apiece. Meadow Brook held an 8-2 half-time bulge.

In the first game, a Squadron A side of Joe Schwartz, Walter Nicholls and Walter Phillips beat the Long Island Polo Club, also by 10-7. Squadron A, starting with a 2-goal allowance, was paced by Walter Nicholls and Schwartz with 3 goals each.

Long Island, which trailed by 7-2 at intermission, was formed by Charles Whitney, Bill Nicholls, 7-goal star, and Fred Zeller. Nicholls was high man of the night. He performed superbly at No. 2, hitting 6 goals. Bill Nicholls, by the way, is the leading scorer to date, with 15 goals in three games, one more than Parsells, top scorer last season.

In a move to increase spectator interest, which has been most pleasing thus far, Parsells, manager of the Squadron A set-up plans to stage a Metropolitan League tournament to begin in the near future.

great deal of prominence in steeplechasing. This year his 5-year-old gelding, Jam, was voted Steeplechaser of 1952. Mr. Plamondon has been a leader in the affairs of hunt racing in the midwest and has participated in the sport from amateur rider to that of official.

Also at this meeting, Rigan McKinney was elected to serve as a steward of the association.

This sale will include 108 Broodmares, 45 Yearlings, 53 Two Year Olds, broken and in light training; 35 Race Horses and 9 Stallions. Also to be sold are four stable ponies and a nurse mare.

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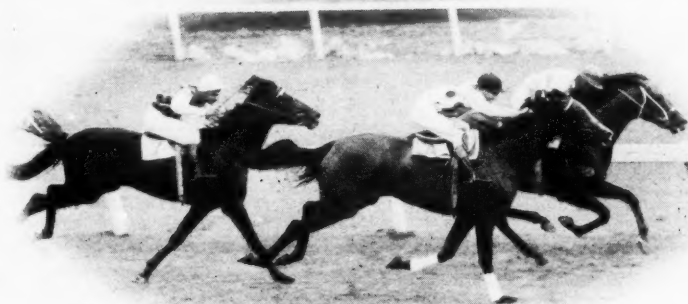
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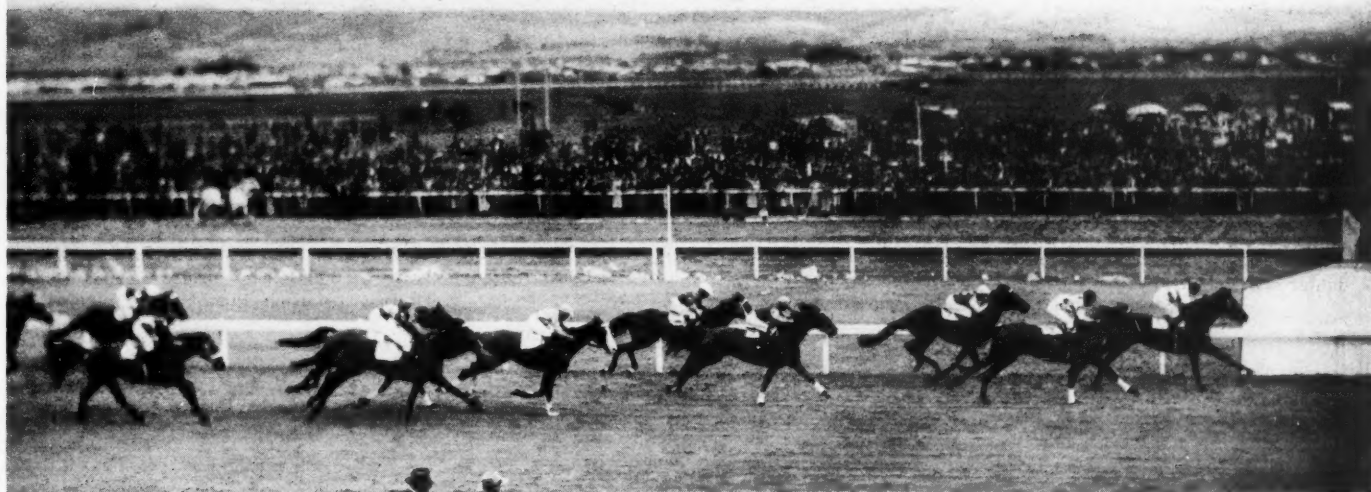
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# Junior Enthusiasts



MISS BARBARA DALE BUTLER is shown during the working hunter class on her Bonnie Jean II at the Georgia Jubilee Horse Show. (Bates Camera Shop)



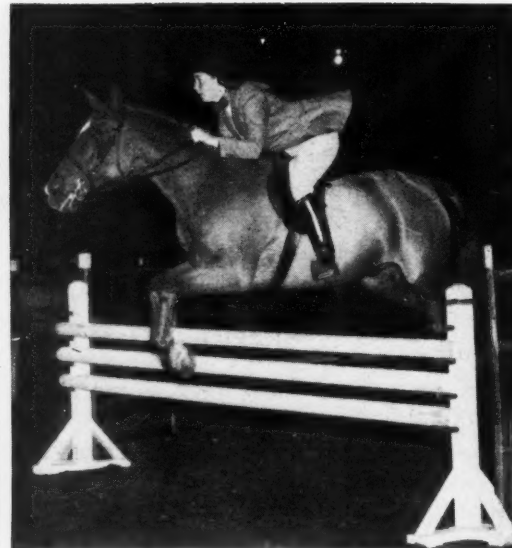
MASTER DENNY HAIGHT on his Foxfire won the children's hunter and handy hunter classes at the Golden Bridge Hounds Hunter Trials. (Carl Klein Photo)



MASTER FRITZ STERBAK rode his Surprise to the small pony championship at the National Horse Show at Madison Square Garden. (Carl Klein Photo)



MISSSES GLENN A LEE MADURA (left), CYNTHIA STONE AND MASTER GEORGE MORRIS were tops in the equitation division, as well as composing the winning junior hunt team at the Garden. (Budd Photo)



MISS SARA ANN CAVANAGH rode Mrs. Marion T. Shotter's Easter Hal to the large pony championship at the 1952 National Horse Show. (Freudy Photo)



MASTER RAYMOND WALSH was awarded the hunting seat equitation tri-color at the New Brunswick Horse Show in New Jersey. (Carl Klein Photo)



MISS POLLY PERKINS took the junior horsemanship championship on her Commando at the Norfolk Hunter Trials at Medfield. (Reynolds Photo)

## Equitation Programs

### Practical Plans Suggested To Provide Better Horsemanship For Young Riders

Donald Zoll

I haven't the time for that! This place is supposed to make money! What do I care if they really can ride or not so long as I have their two dollars! I'd have to replace all my stock! These verbal ejaculations are immediately raised by the tribe of harried riding school proprietors and huntsmen when I gently mention the possibility of their launching an intelligent equitation program for juniors. And it is under these same gentlemen that the majority of young Americans get their initial taste of horsemanship. What are we to do about it, banish such people to a horsemens' purgatory in our incensed imaginations? That might momentarily salve our emotional requirements, but it wouldn't help solve the problem of bringing an opportunity for better horsemanship to young riders. So, consequently, these remarks are not addressed to the top-quality military academies, private schools, and big budget hunt clubs, but rather to skeptics who question the practicability of doing more than is being done in the field of equitation.

If you draw out in argument one of these hard-minded "realists", you soon learn that his opposition to more elaborate junior equitation programs has three sides. First, he maintains that making money in the horse business is hard enough and that such visionary schemes as I might suggest would involve multi-fold additional services without substantial additional income. Why should he do it for nothing or even at a loss? The pure cynics, incidentally, even go so far as to say that why should they "break their backs" trying to teach riding when people will still pay for lessons that consist of riding a dog-food factory candidate around a ring?

Next, they plead that time doesn't permit such activities. You're lucky, they say, to get the kids on and off the horses in the allotted hour without attempting any "fancy stuff" such as horse and stable management, saddle and tack nomenclature, and so forth. Further, they maintain that pupils will only pay for riding, not talk in the tackroom and classroom.

Lastly—and even paying lip service to the ideal of better programs—they complain that they can't afford to buy the type of horse necessary to use in such a form of equitation instruction. You can't expect us, they holler, to put in school horses at twice the cost of the ones we are using. The less polite detractors accuse one of wanting to mount all beginners on finished hunters.

#### Valid Objections?

How valid are these objections? Do they offer insurmountable obstacles to the goal of having highly-developed junior programs? Answer: they are invalid and are but rationalizations for inadequate instructional skill, imagination, and simple industry. It does not cost any more to teach riding as it should be taught either in time or the coin of the realm, but it does exact a toll in demanding capable leadership and the exercise of mental resources. Let's look at some of the features of good equitation programs and see if we can discover practical answers to the practical objections one can hear so frequently raised. As to the matter of the school horse and his part in equitation programs, we will reserve that discussion to a separate article that will appear shortly after this one.

The salient feature of a properly oriented junior riding program that is almost universal is that such programs study horsemanship, not riding. The old saw about numerous riders, but few horsemen is taken to heart. This almost at once suggests some of the aspects of possible programs. Children and adolescents are thirsty for knowledge about horses and their curiosity is remarkable if they get a chance to indulge it with someone who actually knows something himself. So often an instructor will frustrate that curiosity in his

effort to hide his own consummate ignorance. Youngsters adore doing even the most menial of stable chores if they are ever allowed to participate in the operation of the stables. Any satisfactory riding program should feature horse and stable management, feeding, care and use of the equipment, animal first-aid and sanitation, and elementary equine anatomy. I point out that all this is free—it doesn't cost anything, except time. And it doesn't cost anything in time if these periods are scheduled so that they will not conflict with regular equitation periods in the ring. Isn't this giving something for nothing? Not in the long run if you double or triple the number of your students. Impossible? Far from it.

Take advantage of bad days and slack periods to devote to intensive indoor classwork on equitation theory, nomenclature and history of the horse and his breeds, and briefing sessions regarding coming schooling tournaments, hunts, and horse shows. Use the blackboard, films and film strips, and any forms of visual aids you can think of. Let the pupils talk, too, since the process of putting into words their physical actions in very beneficial. Will the pupils sit through these sessions, the moss-backs will leer? Yes, they will if they are getting clever teaching from someone who isn't bluffing them.

Mix up your standard elementary equitation instruction with both school figures and military drill and balance these two in ratio to the interests of the class. Since you must start your instruction with basic school figures, it is simple to expand on them, and then to slip easily into schooling and elementary dressage. Military drill enlivened with a "team" identification can make basic equitation much more palatable. If you have a boys' class, create a quasi-military organization with regular assigned duties such as in a cavalry squad or section and then allow various members of the class to rotate these duties and even drill the group for experience. Don't stick to "close order" drill only, but when their horsemanship improves, introduce "extended order" formations in the field. Stress personal responsibility and care of the mount.

#### Hunt Organization

You can do the same sort of thing with girl students by creating a permanent hunt organization (there is nothing to prevent you from doing this with boys, either) complete with Master, Field Master, and Whippers-in rotating through the class. Secure a simple hunting horn and as many "props" as you can to add to the atmosphere. Make full use of mock hunts to emphasize principles of field riding. With boys or girls, introduction of the cavaletti rails can occur during elementary instruction and simple jumping—ring and field—over very low jumps if possible after a few weeks of intensive work on fundamentals.

Such permanent groups can have social implications as well and can be supported by other community elements. For example, older age levels of the Boy Scouts often desire to form mounted patrols and undertake a thorough course in horsemanship as a part of the "Explorer" phase of Scouting. Such groups grow rapidly in both size and interest and the results are very heartening. You can make these boys the equivalent of good Cavalry troopers if both you and the boys are willing to put in some work. Occasionally, these boys own and care for—or even raise—their own mounts. I recommend that such Scout groups also be instructed in community services such as training to patrol industrial plants, emergency communications in case of sudden atomic attack, and so forth. This not only serves a useful purpose, but provides a wonderful stimulation for activity on the part of the boys. Here alone is the basis for a national program for better horsemanship. School and club

groups can be organized on the same basis as these Scout formations. Cavalry-type overnight marches, with care of animals and equipment illustrated, appeal strongly to boys' groups. Even mounted patrolling ala the days of the Frontier is an excellent mounted game to develop flexibility and self-confidence in the rider and is a top-notch preparation for the hunt field.

Besides this type of an organization, it is entirely possible to form Junior Hunts, either as an appendage to a regular adult hunt or from a riding school. The purchase and quite uncomplicated training of a pair of bloodhound puppies will accomplish the formation of the "pack". These hounds, quiet and gentle, work well as a pair, move at just the proper cross-country speed for junior riders and are easy for a novice with hounds to hunt after a little experience. Cost of their purchase and maintenance is quickly done by an initial subscription of a dollar or so from each pupil and a few cents "dues" a month. In one instance I know of, these hounds were fed by the profits from the Sunday morning "hunt breakfast" at the riding school. Every conceivable phase of hunting from covert-side etiquette to casting hounds can be reproduced on a junior scale with these arrangements. Some older and slowing drag hounds will also perform satisfactorily. This can be as elaborate as you care to make it and the details can be left to your ingenuity and imagination. Do you think the children and adolescents like this sort of thing? The answer is obvious—and the only problem is to keep the adults from "horning in" on their fun.

Many local adaptations of these ideas are, of course, not only practicable, but desirable. The end product is the major concern. If it fosters good horsemanship and spreads the notion that the horse is an animal with a soul and not a four-legged "hot rod" it serves this end and should not be looked down upon. Incidentally, one of the best examples of care I have ever seen on the part of teen-age boys were some roping

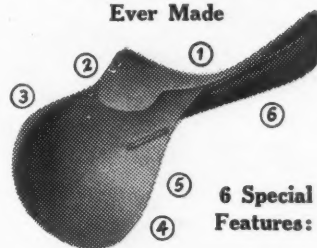
Continued On Page 18

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REBEL	JUDGES DAUGHTER	VAL JEAN
THE PIE	(timber)	SUSIE'S ERROR
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## Effects of the Red Fox On Other Game



### Article Is Concerned Primarily With Results Of Food Habits Investigation

F. Nelson Swink, Jr.

(Paper presented to the Virginia Academy of Science, May, 1952. At the time Swink was a graduate fellow of The Virginia Co-operative Wildlife Research Unit, V. P. I. This article is reprinted through the courtesy of the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries, Richmond, Va.)

The effects of the red fox population on other game species has been investigated on the 2,300 acres of the V. P. I. College Farms during the period January, 1951, through March, 1952. Various phases of the problem have been considered; one of the more important aspects has been concerned with the food taken by the fox. This writing is concerned primarily with the result of the food habits investigation.

Three techniques may be utilized to determine the food habits of foxes; first, by an examination of the contents of the digestive tract; second, by observations in the field of the food items taken by the fox and, third, by the examination of scats, or fecal passages. I have dealt only with the feeding trends of the red fox on the V. P. I. College Farms as indicated by the examination of fecal passages.

The determination of foods taken by foxes as shown by scat analysis has certain limitations. It is generally conceded, however, that scat analysis will show the trends in feeding and that it permits the sampling of these trends without sacrificing or disturbing the species under investigation. The scat collection was made by the writer and the time spent afield collecting the specimens afforded an additional opportunity to relate the food items found in the scats with the availability of food items in the field.

In this type analysis the percentage

of occurrence is the accepted standard used to evaluate each food item in the diet of the foxes, since the actual volume can be inaccurate and misleading. Obviously three mice would not represent the same volume of food consumed by the fox as would one cottontail rabbit.

A total of 77 food items were identified in the analysis of 549 scats collected at regular intervals throughout the 15-month period from January, 1951, through March, 1952. Only those items of food which occurred a significant number of times to be of importance in the diet of the fox will be discussed here. For convenience, the following discussion will be concerned with the mammalian, avian, invertebrate, and plant foods.

#### General Feeding Trends

The food habits patterns of red foxes have been investigated by several writers in the United States, and by a lesser number in Europe. The basic feeding trends on the study area at Blacksburg were found to be somewhat different than those found by other investigators, but generally follow the same pattern.

The major mammalian food item was the meadow mouse. This mammal occurred 289 times (52 per cent) in 549 fecal passages. The highest monthly occurrence was in May when pups are just coming out of the natal den and learning to hunt for themselves.

The meadow mouse is particularly vulnerable to foxes, and the evidence presented in this study substantiates this fact. Therefore, it seems reasonable to state that the meadow mouse is one of the preferred food items because of its abundance and apparent vulnerability.

The agricultural practices on the V.P.I. College Farms offer ideal habitat for the meadow mouse and this no doubt is the reason for relatively high populations occurring on the study area. Most of the area is in pasture or crops, thus affording the mouse desirable habitat.

The second most important mammalian food item was the cottontail

rabbit, which occurred 189 times (34 per cent) in 549 fecal passages. This mammal was also the most important species found on trails and at natal dens. The cottontail occurred only 71 times during the winter and 50 times during the spring. It occurred only four times during the summer when plant growth offers the most protection to the rabbits. These facts follow the characteristic pattern in which the cottontail is eaten by the red fox at all seasons of the year, with a low in the summer. The rabbit is found in every type of habitat on the study area. It is of interest to note that one natal den was located that had the remains of seven rabbits around the entrances, yet, from six fecal passages picked up there, rabbit did not occur in a single dropping.

The third most important mammalian food item was the opossum. It occurred 52 times (9 per cent) during the study. The period of maximum occurrence was in the winter, when it appeared 34 times. This mammal is also vulnerable to the fox and this fact probably accounts for the relatively high occurrence in the foxes' diet. The opossum is fairly abundant on the study area, but no estimation of the population was made.

Strangely enough, the next item was the striped skunk, occurring 19 times (3.5 per cent) during the investigation. The largest occurrence was in the winter (16) as would be expected, for the skunk and the fox would naturally be seeking den sites at the same time and this fact would lead to conflict between these species. Normally the fox probably does not bother the skunk, for the obvious reason.

The fifth most important mammalian item was the white-footed mouse, which occurred 19 times (3.5 per cent) during the study. It occurred at all seasons of the year, except the summer. It is strange that this mouse did not occur more frequently, for it undoubtedly is present in fairly large numbers in the wooded sections of the study area. Several other investigators have also found that this mouse usually occurs in the diet more frequently during the winter. The habits of the white-foot may be the reason for its apparent immunity to fox predation, for it is strictly nocturnal in habit. On the other hand the meadow mouse is found in the field at all hours. The exact population ratio between the meadow mouse and the white-footed mouse is unknown, but it is my opinion that the meadow mouse is at least ten times more abundant than the white-foot on the study area.

Of lesser importance are the following mammals: Mole, short-tailed shrew, New York weasel, least weasel, house cat, red fox, woodchuck, chipmunk, harvest mouse, common rat, gray squirrel, domestic pig, domestic dog and domestic sheep.

Of all avian food items, the domestic chicken appeared most frequently. It occurred 36 times (7 per cent) during the investigation. The highest occurrence was during the spring, as would be expected with pups in the den. This item was at all times readily available to the foxes, as several thousand chickens annually are produced on the V. P. I. College Farms, and it is surprising that they did not take it as a food item more often. I believe that most of the chickens taken were carrion, for chickens were often thrown out of the poultry plant by the laborers and thus made available to the foxes. Several complaints were registered with me concerning foxes raiding the chicken houses, but after trapping for several nights, the only trespassers caught were three skunks and one opossum.

Evidence that the bobwhite quail was eaten by foxes was present in only one of the 549 fecal passages examined. This does not tend to reflect a true picture of the pressure exerted by the fox upon the quail, however, as it is known that seventeen quail were killed by foxes over the 15 months of the study. Of these, twelve were found in the field where they had been killed, two were found at den sites and three quail were taken by foxes from quail traps used in a quail study.

Some researchers have demonstrated that predation losses among quail in the winter normally are from that segment of the quail population that is in excess of the carrying capacity of the range. If this is true the fox actually benefits the quail population by removing some birds from compe-

## Executive Committee Elects New Members At New York Meeting

A meeting of the executive committee of the Masters of Foxhounds Association was held in the Vaughn Room at the Knickerbocker Club in New York on December 11, 1952. There were present J. Watson Webb, president, William Almy, Jr. secretary and treasurer, Stuart S. Janney, Jr. vice-president, C. Wadsworth Howard, Trustee of the Hunt Servants' Benefit Foundation, William Clothier of the Pennsylvania District, Sherman Haight of the New England District, Alexandria MacKay-Smith of the Virginia and Southern District and Courtney Burton of the Mid West District.

Frederic Bontecou was appointed a deputy member of the executive committee to serve in place of the late Homer Gray until the annual meeting on January 30. The following were elected to membership as recommended at the previous meeting at the Rose Tree Foxhunting Club in September: William J. Brewster, Joint-Master, Moore County Hounds; W. Ozelle Moss, Joint-Master Moore County Hounds; James B. Orthwein, Joint-Master Bridlespur Hunt; Andrew J. Shinkle, Joint-Master Bridlespur Hunt; Charles H. Tompkins, Jr., Joint-Master Casanova Hunt.

Resolutions of regret were passed concerning three members who have died since the September meeting: Homer B. Gray, Joint-Master Romabout Hunt Nov. 28, 1952; Charles E. Maloy, Jr., ex-M. F. H. Franks-town Aug. 27, 1952; Austin H. Niblack, ex-M. F. H. Mill Creek Hunt Aug. 24, 1952.

It was recommended to the annual meeting for final action that a new district be set up to include the hunts in Canada and that the number of districts in the United States be increased to 8 as follows: District 2, New England, 8 Hunts; District 3, New York and New Jersey, 13 Hunts; District 4, Pennsylvania, 20 Hunts; District 5, Maryland and Delaware, 10 Hunts; District 6, Virginia, 18 Hunts; District 7, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee, 9 Hunts; District 8, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Kentucky, 17 Hunts; District 9, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, California, Oregon, Washington, 7 Hunts,

tion.

Therefore, it is possible for relatively high populations of quail and red foxes to live harmoniously on a range of restricted size without any serious effect upon the quail population.

The following birds also appeared in the diet of the fox, but did not occur frequently enough to indicate serious predation by the fox: mourning dove, mallard duck, crow, pigeon, starling, meadowlark, cowbird, mockingbird; cardinal, red-winged blackbird, song sparrow, rusty blackbird and brown thrasher.

Invertebrate animals made up a relatively high percentage of the warm weather diet of the fox on the study area. The invertebrates were represented almost exclusively by insects, only two of which are of importance, the Orthoptera and the Coleoptera.

Among the Orthoptera the grasshopper made up 27 per cent, by occurrence, of the diet. It occurred 151 times during the study, and appeared at all seasons. Late summer and fall were the seasons at which the grasshoppers were the most important in the foxes' diet. Fecal passages were often collected at woodchuck dens in the fall, indicating the grasshoppers were substituting for mammalian food items in the diet at that period. The grasshopper is strictly a seasonal item that apparently is relished by foxes, as indicated by the large number of occurrences in fecal materials. This item was the third most important food item in the diet.

Carabid beetles appeared at all seasons of the year, the larger percentage occurring in the summer and fall. This item occurred 74 times (13 per cent) in all. The occurrence is thought to be low, for large numbers of beetles were available on the study area at all times.

Several other insects were identified in the fecal passages; among them are: Scarabaeid beetles, Buprest-

Continued On Page 11



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### November 25:

Hounds met at the Kennels at 1:30 p. m. Joint-M. F. H. Thomas F. Simmons decided to draw Linn's Woods, where we know a good fox lives. Apparently our Red was not at home. Huntsman Heller, mounted on an inexperienced young Thoroughbred, afforded some excitement at the fences—but over he went for "Buck". By the end of the day he appeared to be a schooled hunter. Courage and good hands produce quick results.

In Sellers wood hounds got a line. It seemed fairly cold. Working hard they brought us within view of Mr. Reynard flying across Cochrane's steer pasture. A short fast run, through Chestnut Sprouts, across the exercise track at the upper Raul Farm (where he was again viewed by "Pudd", a regular hill-topper). Here, also, he was probably turned, as he doubled back—crossed Ridley Creek and headed for the Tin Garages. Young horses had had enough. We called it a day.

### November 27, Thanksgiving Day:

Mr. and Mrs. William Frantz entertained the Field, as is their custom, at a delightful Thanksgiving Day breakfast before the hunt, at Tremont. It was a pleasure to see Gerry Lieper and his daughter, Carol, ready for a day's hunting with Rose Tree.

Having fully enjoyed the gracious hospitality of The Frantz, expectations were high, as a Field of forty odd, with many pink coats in evidence, drew off from Tremont. We hoped to show our guests and ourselves sport. Our expectations were fulfilled. Within ten minutes, Huntsman Heller blew "going away". This fox was found in Sellers wood—near the Creek. He ran the bottom fields of Black Oak—then into the woods, crossed Ridley Creek at the lower ford, turned northwest to Cornogs Bottom—through Yarnells' and crossed Sycamore Mills Road west of Mr. Jeffords' gate. Swinging slightly left he headed for the Gradyville Road Pines and finally to ground in Pickering Thicket. A fast run, a bold fox. Considering a large Field and many cars and Hill-toppers—he had run his point well. As for the horses, they were rattling in their hocks!

A second fox found in Pickering gave another run. Thanksgiving Dinners were calling—the Field had thinned. We turned towards home, all satisfied with a good day's hunting.

### November 28:

Hounds met at the Kennels at 11 a. m. for the Children's Hunt with Joint-M. F. H. Thomas Simmons in charge. Over 50 were in the Field. This invitation meet for children proved a great success. Rose Tree wants to have many of them. The riders were enthusiastic, many very able. The youngsters enjoyed a good day in the field and a scrum breakfast at the club house following the Hunt.

### November 29:

Fifteen couple of hounds and a Field of 20 met at Mr. Simmons at 11 a. m. Huntsman Heller being absent. Jack Williams, whipper-in, hunted hounds. The Green Briers were drawn to no avail. Hounds crossed to Mendenhalls and were headed up-country when two does tore from the woods, racing towards Street Road Barrons. Huntsman Williams spied the deer and quickly took the pack in the opposite direction but alas! They broke and flew in pursuit of the deer. After a cold wait on a windy hill we were able to reassemble our hounds. It was decided to hunt down country—a perfectly glorious day to be afield but the deer had spoiled our hunt. Called it a day at Mr. Jeffords'.

### December 4:

The fixture was Burnside at 1:30 p. m. Joint-M. F. H. Thomas Simmons was mounted on a young filly, which he had raised. Under gray skies, with going a bit soft in spots, Huntsman Heller first drew Hunting Hill—then moved his 15 couple towards Pickering. A small Field, Messrs. Wendler and Johnson, Mrs. Griffin on Gooney, Mrs. Rhodes and Mrs. Cochrane. Our first fox was

## OAKS HUNT, (The)

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Recognized 1940.



The Oaks Hunt is having one of its most active hunting seasons in many years. The Thursday afternoon fox hunts bring out an average Field of 15 or 20 and the week-end drag hunts vary from 40 to 50 riders. Joint-Masters Douglas Warner and Henry Iselin attribute this to the mounting enthusiasm for hunting in this area and to the exceptionally good weather throughout the fall.

The Thanksgiving Day hunt, which began at 10 a. m. at Lakeville Manor Inn, Lake Success, brought out a Field of 60, the largest since the opening meet in October. Eight couple of hounds were roamed from the kennels on Community Drive, just below the Inn, and the Field, fortified by Host O'Grady's stirrup cup, followed. Field Master Pierre Dauvergne. The Masters, with Forrest Henderson, Glenn Bennett, Dr. Daniel P. Twohig and Lester Bovee, whippers-in, roamed hounds east through the woods and east them in Mr. Grace's west field. They found immediately and were off across the field and into the east field, where the long run with its series of brush jumps made excellent going.

Still following the line of the drag, hounds, followed by the Field at full gallop, continued north and east into Mr. Whitney's woods, over a series of post and rails and several substantial logs, to check in the pasture at Mr. Whitney's barns.

East again through the woods at a comfortable jog to the Paley's meadow, hounds were cast again and off we went. Hounds ran southwest through the narrow winding woodland trails to Allen's with its brush and timber jumps and then they checked at the end before crossing Shelter Rock Road.

Hounds were then roamed across Shelter Rock and through the tree nursery and cast at the end of the nursery. What followed was one of the most exciting flat runs of the season.

The Field, at a fast gallop behind hounds, had better than a three-quarter mile run along the path bordering the nursery. They made a sharp turn through a small section of woodland and went out into the open fields of the Brady estate. Here a hard working crew of the members cleared a quarter-mile path, wide enough for 8 horses, through the open fields. Jumps had not yet been set up along the course and all of us arrived breathless at Searingtown Road, where hounds checked again before going on into Ryan's field.

A final run here over the rolling hills with their brush and timber jumps the hounds made another check. The Field had an easy ride back to Lakeville Manor for a hunt breakfast presided over by the honorary secretary, Mrs. Edward S. Riley.

The chief topic of conversation at the December hunts has been the victory of 2 of our hounds at the Brooklyn Kennel Club's Bench Show on November 30. One English and one American hound were shown from the pack, with each receiving the best of breed award at the show.

—Lois Meistrell

found in Pickering—a beautiful big red. Hounds were off at a good pace—scent seemed good. Conditions perfect for real sport—and that's what we got. The red crossed Ridley Creek, ran Barrow's low meadows, swinging right, running up the bottom to the Lower Raul Farm. He was turned, swung left, then right, through the Pines—across the Cart lane to Chestnut Sprouts. Here we had a splendid view and he was a beauty. Galloping across Mauran's—a gunner called he had seen our fox headed for a freshly manured field on Cochrane's farm. A smart maneuver on his part—as hounds were pushing him. Our quarry gained at least 10 minutes while hounds worked across the field. They got the line in the bottom land—followed to Ridley Creek and up the East side. Across from Hunting Hill, the fox doubled back towards the Sprouts and Pines. Hounds were gaining and pushing hard—the red had had enough so popped into an earth in

## The Red Fox

Continued From Page 10

tid beetles and Curculionids.

The number of species of plants that occurred in the foxes' diet was surprisingly high. As we expected, the occurrence of plant materials is almost restricted to the summer and fall periods.

A major exception to the seasonal occurrence of plant materials is orchard-grass, which appeared at all seasons of the year in fairly large quantities. This grass appeared 164 times during the investigation. This grass is readily available to the foxes at all seasons of the year on almost every section of the study area. Other grasses occurred in the fecal materials but were relatively unimportant in the diet, because of the small quantities that appeared.

Wild cherry, an important seasonal food item of the red fox, appeared 66 times (12 per cent) during the study. Nearly 90 per cent of these occurrences were in the early fall. The fox is known to travel long distances to obtain cherries and to gorge himself with them. Occurrence seems to indicate that this food is highly preferred by foxes when it is in season.

Of minor importance are the following plant foods of the fox on the study area at Blacksburg: Wild grape, pokeberry, blackberries, plum, corn, apple, black haw, tomato, horse nettle, ground cherry, burdock, grapefruit, Korean clover, ragweed, bur-margold, medick, crab-apple, greenbrier, persimmon, bush lespedeza and sweet cicely.

In conclusion, I am of the opinion

the woods which lies above the lower Raul Farm. A good and satisfactory ending to a fast run, and excellent hound work. Hounds had worked their line well, with a smart fox laying it. A check at the earth—then on to Hunting Hill. Immediately hounds gave tongue—we viewed another fine red and another good run. Darkness approaching, so we called it a day. I heard several say, "The most satisfactory day of the season".—A. J. C.

## HUNTING

that predation on game mammals and birds, by foxes, is negligible. The cottontail rabbit is taken frequently, but the rabbit is apparently able to withstand the pressure placed upon him by foxes.

The bobwhite quail apparently suffers only slight predation and is not affected seriously by the foxes.

The rodents seemingly bear the brunt of predation, however, all evidence indicates that rodents are capable of relatively high populations despite fox predation.

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# Horse Shows

WEEKLY NEWS

FROM THE

SHOW CIRCUITS

Nancy G. Lee



## Horsemanship For Beginners

There have been many, many books written on horsemanship and there is no indication that there will ever cease to be a new one off the presses at different intervals. Some of the publications on the subject are so technical that it would take quite an advanced student of riding to follow the text. Others touch so lightly on subjects that the uninformed are still in that category when the book has been finished.

One of the best books which has come to light for a long time is Horsemanship for Beginners which was written by Miss Jean Slaughter and carefully covers riding, jumping and schooling. Making full use of the 94 original photographs, Miss Slaughter makes it possible for the absolute novice to gain much education from merely studying the pictures. This does not mean that she advocates using the pictures as the only source of information; far from that, but they were well chosen and serve a purpose.

Getting into the text one finds that even though one has ridden for years and years, there are a number of things connected with the sport which hadn't been given too much attention. The young authoress brings out her points well and does so in such a manner that the supposed to be "died in the wool" horseman will not mind being caught reading the book, while the novice will glean a world of information.

In every sport there is a language which pertains only to that particular sport. This holds true with the world of horses and even there the horse show people have a language; the race track, etc. Speak to a westerner about "tacking up" a horse and unless he has been around the show ring or all of his riding has been done with English tack, he will wonder what you are talking about. Rather than leave the novice up in the air when the word "tack", or the expression "tacking him up" are used, Miss Slaughter took time to explain. The same applies to the way she handled the matter of checking the girth before mounting; she used a picture to illustrate.

Perhaps after reading the chapter on "A Horse of Your Own" you may not agree 100 percent, but at least you have been given some at-factly good idea for thought. If you unwittingly fall into some of the pitfalls which sometimes surround the buying of a horse, before you leap again, review that chapter.

The feeling of Miss Slaughter is clearly indicated in the final paragraph of this interesting book:

"Most important of all, have a

good time! Blue ribbons and silver trophies are very nice, but only one person in each class can win them! Enjoy yourself, ride as well as you can—and good luck!"

## Black Beauty

A person as well known as Paul Brown needs no introduction to horsemen, whether they be hunters, jumper, saddle horse, polo or just plain pleasure riders. His drawings and books have meant many pleasant hours for young and old alike. Now he has completed a book which has been in the back of his mind a number of years—Black Beauty. Not only horse people have read Ann Sewell's Black Beauty but the book has had a wide circulation among people in all walks of life. Youngsters have had it read to them and then when they were able to read, the book has become dog eared as they read and re-read their favorite chapters.

Reading Black Beauty meant putting in quite a bit of time because of the length of the text but no one minded this too much. However, now that Mr. Brown has been able to do the one job he particularly wanted to handle, reading Black Beauty now appears in a form which will delight the youngsters and stir the memories of those people who are "getting a little long in the tooth". Cutting down the original text, Mr. Brown has not omitted any of the details of the story as throughout the book his outstanding drawings depict the many phases of Black Beauty's life. His capability in selecting drawings which would carry the complete story with the help of a shortened text is an accomplishment beyond description.

This Paul Brown edition of Black Beauty is complete from start to finish and the reader begins with the young foal to uncover the many details in the life of one of the children's favorite horses. Black Beauty becomes a real figure as one reads the story and looks at the drawings and this is true only because of the great ability of the artist-writer.

## Bexar County Ride and Hunt Club

The weather certainly played havoc with the 2nd annual Bexar County Ride and Hunt Club Show. Some exhibitors had already arrived a day early when the rains came and the show had to be cancelled. A vote was taken and it was decided that those exhibitors would remain

in San Antonio and that the show would be held the following "week-end". The Texas draught was really broken in the week which followed. Not until Friday did the skies clear. All the other exhibitors, in the meantime, had about given up but some hurried calls and much scurrying around on their part found all arriving in time and the show went off as scheduled.

The entries in all divisions were rather small for the usual Texas show but there were some fine performances. A good class was the junior event which settled down between the State's two smallest competitors who battled it out over the jumps, some of which were 4'-6". The eventual winner was Miss Sue Cocke on her own horse, Reward while Miss Mary Kay McFarland was an owner-rider to finish 2nd on Slipalong.

The open jumper division wound up in a three-way tie. In the jump off, Charlie Zimmerman brought in Miss Sue Penn's Analize for the championship honors and Jimmie Burr took the reserve spot with Reuben.

Conformation hunter honors went to the recent National Horse Show participant, Tuxedo, capably ridden by Miss Terry Jo Cocke. Reserve to Tuxedo was Colonel, owned by Miss Cynthia Brants and ridden by Missy Kone, who took over the reins when the rain forced Miss Brants to have to cancel her jaunt to the show.

A new champion was pinned in the working hunter division. Brenda owned by Mrs. H. H. Phillips and ridden by Malda Reager. In the final show of a most illustrious career, Bald Eagle, owned by Miss Isabel Brown and ridden by Bill Hobby, came in for reserve. This grand old horse has turned in many a wonderful performance, both as an open jumper and as a working hunter. He is well into his 20's and deserves the rest he will now enjoy in the vicinity of Newgulf, Texas where the grass is knee high and a bit more.

## SHOW CORRESPONDENT The Texas

PLACE: San Antonio, Texas.  
TIME: November 29-30.  
JUDGE: Col. O. I. Holman, jumpers and equitation; W. P. Bell, hunters.  
CONFORMATION HUNTER CH.: Tuxedo, Terry Cocke.  
Res.: Colonel, Cynthia Brants.  
WORKING HUNTER CH.: Brenda, Malda Reager.  
Res.: Bald Eagle, Bill Hobby.  
JUMPER CH.: Analize, Charles Zimmerman.  
Res.: Reuben, Jimmie Burr.

## SUMMARIES

November 29

Local equitation — 1. Jean Morris; 2. Lynn Morris; 3. Marion Dewar; 4. Corrine Davenport.

Hunters under saddle — 1. Mimosa, Mrs. Charles Zimmerman; 2. Jack Daniels, Rocky Walker; 3. Hobo, Mrs. Charles Zimmerman; 4. Hancock Drive, Jimmie Burr.

Open working hunter — 1. Brenda; 2. Bald Eagle; 3. Eager, Jimmie Burr; 4. Brownwood, Sally Meyer.

Equitation, 13-17 — 1. Mary Kay McFarland; 2. Eleanor Morgan; 3. Mary Elizabeth Iams; 4. Marion Dewar.

Go as you please — 1. Reubin; 2. Bubbles, Jimmie Burr; 3. Uptown, Jimmie Burr; 4. Analize.

Handy conformation hunters — 1. Colonel; 2. Main Spring, Bill Hobby; 3. Tuxedo; 4. Verdina Girl, Terry Cocke.

Equitation, 18-19 — 1. Merrick Coates; 2. Jean Morris; 3. Sue Cocke; 4. Ann Page.

Green hunter — 1. Mimosa; 2. All Spice; 3. Hancock Drive; 4. Jack Daniels, Rocky Walker.

Hunter hack — 1. Main Spring; 2. Tuxedo; 3. Colonel; 4. Verdina Girl.

Junior working hunter — 1. Anglo-American, Eleanor Morgan; 2. Indian Dawn, Ann Robertson; 3. Mercy Me, Martha Kyger; 4. Reward, Sue Cocke.

Modified olympic — 1. Mad Money, Charles Zimmerman; 2. Bubbles; 3. Mimic, Charles Zimmerman; 4. Analize.

Handy working hunter — 1. Brenda; 2. Brownwood; 3. Bald Eagle; 4. Eager.

November 30

Junior jumpers — 1. Reward; 2. Slipalong; 3. Plum Puddin, Merrick Coates; 4. Patrick, Ann Page.

Open conformation hunters — 1. Main Spring; 2. Tuxedo; 3. Colonel; 4. Jack Daniels, Rocky Walker.

Working hunter hack — 1. Bald Eagle; 2. Leigh, Arvilla Taylor; 3. Brownwood; 4. Tally-Ho, Whitney Donaldson.

Continued On Page 15

## V.H.S.A. Holds Annual Meeting At Charlottesville

Annual meetings of horse show associations always provide a time at the end of the season for officers, exhibitors, etc. to get together. Discussion can become rather heated sometimes but usually things are worked out and plans are made for the new season which isn't too far off.

The Virginia Horse Show Association held its meeting at the Hotel Monticello in Charlottesville, Va. on December 6. About 40 members were present and 32 shows were represented. Getting down to the business details, the secretary reported that the association has 101 junior members and 147 senior members.

Discussed at great length was the matter of a way to finance the annual Red Book which gives the record of all shows and horses in the State of Virginia for the year. Each member will be asked to sell a page of advertising for the book and the names were taken of the persons at the meeting who agreed to do so. A suggestion was made that entry fees for the Virginia Horse Shows Association equitation classes go to the Association and it will supply the shows with the medal and ribbons.

Mrs. James C. Hamilton, president of the association, said she wanted shows to ask junior judges to judge and she is going to try to get a list of junior judges who would be willing to go to judge for the experience and not charge traveling expenses.

This year at least two shows had great success with the new green working hunter division and the members discussed the matter of asking Virginia shows to include this division to replace the young hunter division.

The matter of horse show dues received much attention with the proposal that the dues be raised to \$25 per day. Some of the members wanted it at \$20 per day; others at \$25 for the first day and \$15 for each following day. The matter was left up to the board of directors. Another item which the directors will settle at their meeting on January 6 will be the pony rules, as well as some changes in the junior division.

The present officers were re-elected and the nominating committee, consisting of Mrs. Page Jennings, W. T. Carrico and Nick Saegmuller, named the following persons for the board of directors: James Wiley, Tom Troden, Mrs. Ellen Huffman and Mrs. T. Kenneth Ellis, as well as the former members, Forrest Taylor, James Blackwell, Andrew Montgomery, Miss Julia Shearer and W. T. Carrico. The names were accepted and the new board named.

It is always interesting to try something different if it is at all possible. Mrs. Hamilton suggested putting in an owner-rider class at the shows and having a high score award at the end of the season. As no definite decision was reached as to the type class to hold, the matter will be decided next month by the board of directors.

With the business at hand taken care of, the meeting moved into the order of the evening for dinner and the presentations for the high score awards. Following are the leaders in each division:

## Conformation Hunters

	No. Points
Sir Sarazan (Waverly Farm)	327½
Adventure (Langgollen Farm)	231½
Safety Call (Langgollen Farm)	169½
Highlander (Mrs. Amory Lawrence)	124½
Both Ways (Mr. and Mrs. J. North Fletcher)	113
One More Pennant (Mr. and Mrs. W. Haggin Perry)	106½
Waiting Home (Peggy Augustus)	88½
Reno Siren (Ballantre)	86
Iccapade (Mrs. Page Jennings)	64½
Candlewick (Jimmy Hatcher)	63

## Green Hunters

	No. Points
Ripple Boy (Dr. and Mrs. Alvin I. Kay)	297
The Cad (Waverly Farm)	170½
Spanish Mint (Mrs. Deane Rucker)	160½

Continued On Page 18

# WM. WRIGHT



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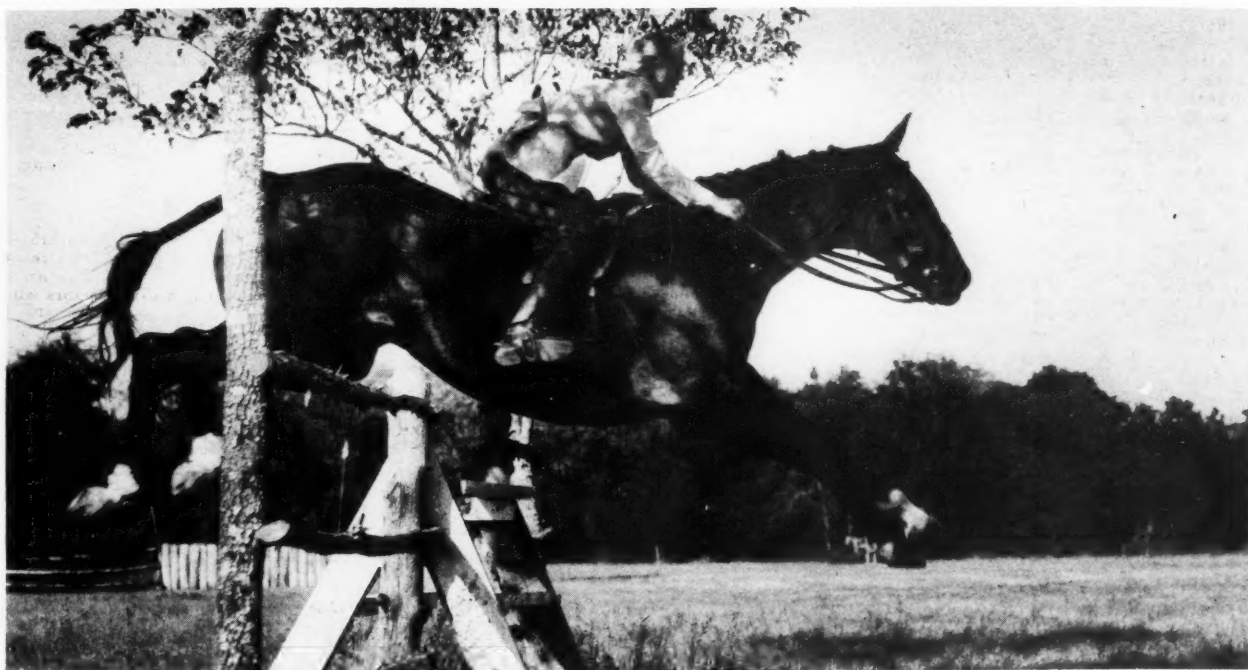
## Judges' Selections



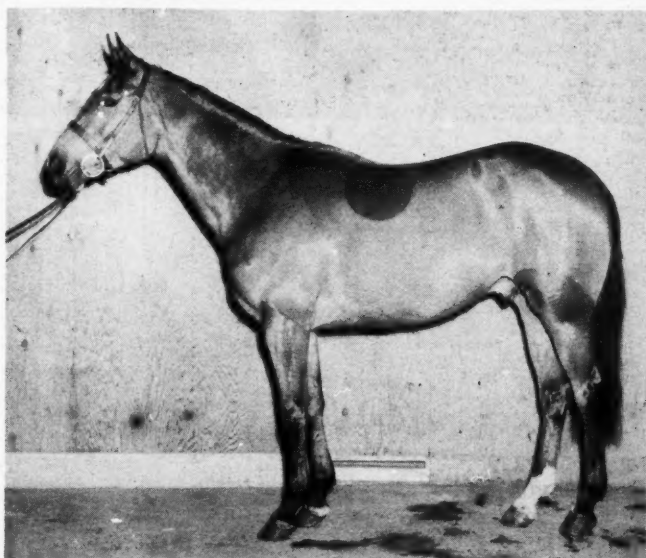
**SAN ANTONIO CHAMPION.** Charles Zimmerman received the trophy from Mrs. Lea Perron for Mad Money's jumper tri-color. Analyze (on right) won the stake class. (Tom Darling Photo)



**CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL** Miss Dorothy McCloud rode Sterling Smith's Our Day to enter the winner's circle. (Grantham Photo)



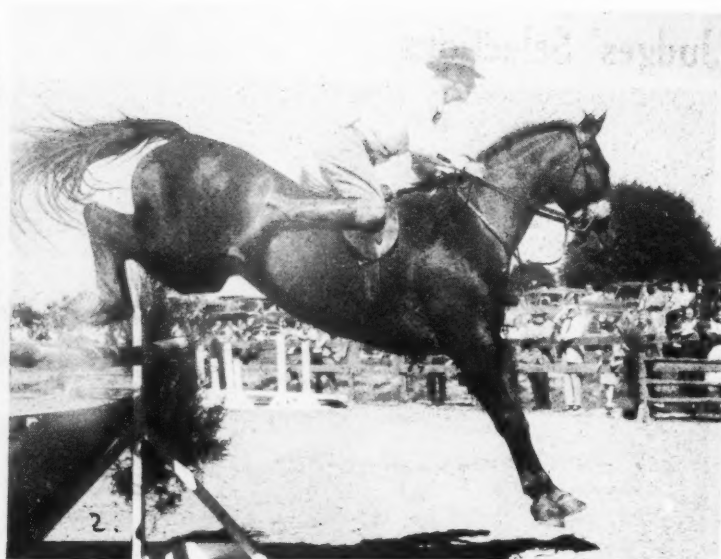
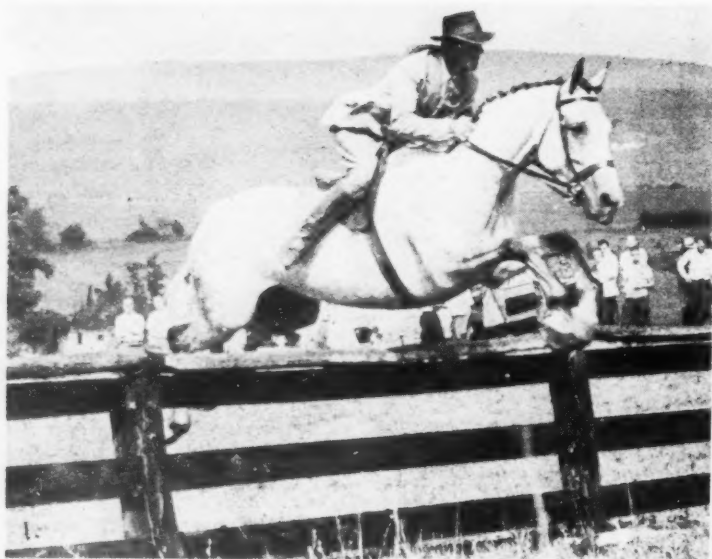
**OWNER-RIDER COMBINATION.** Miss Cynthia Brants and her Colonel have been adding ribbons and tri-colors to their collection during the 1952 show season in Texas. (Mears Photo)



**ROYAL WINTER FAIR.** Donald Vance's My Pale, won the coveted Governor General's Cup for 3-year-olds at the big Toronto indoor show.

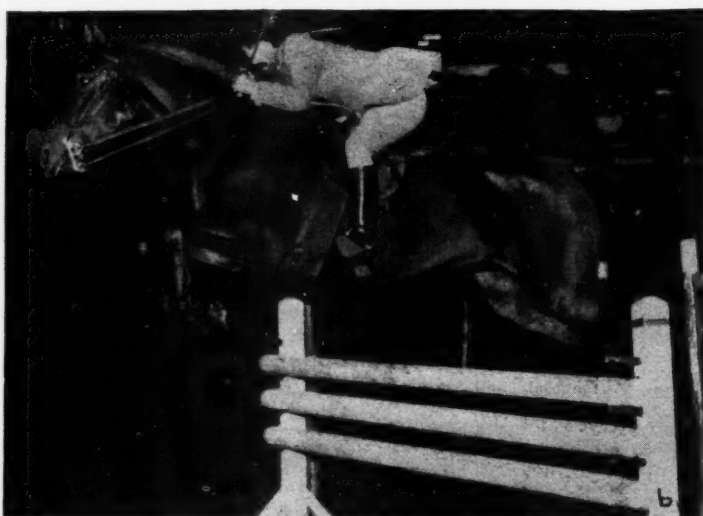


**AMERICAN ROYAL.** Owner Robert Baskowitz (left) holds the working hunter champion, Red Bird while Bob Egan handles Warrior which annexed the reserve award. (Morris Photo)



## MARYLAND SHOW CHAMPIONS

1. CLAUDE W. OWEN'S SKY'S SHADOW. Conformation and working hunter champion—ridden by Gardner Hallman. (R. L. Pennington Photo)
2. MR. AND MRS. GARDNER HALLMAN'S RED KNIGHT. Open jumper champion—owner up. (Tiffany Photo)
3. SYDNEY GADD'S CRAVEN'S RAVEN. Junior division champion—owner up. (Klein Photo)
4. MISS JOYCE GESELL'S LOVER. Eastern Shore Division champion—owner up. (Freudy Photo)
5. MRS. F. J. HUGHES' BON BON. Green Hunter champion—owner up.
6. MISS NANCY MORGAN'S MOONBEAM. Large pony champion—owner up. (Budd Photo)
7. MRS. W. G. BOYCE'S SMOKEY JOE. Medium pony champion—Billy Boyce III up.
8. MISS PATSY GORRELL'S THANE OF WALES. Small pony champion—owner up. (Freudy Photo)



## Cock-Fighting

### Henry II Established Sport In Regal Favour To Become Recreation of Nobility

C. R. Acton

#### (Installment I)

It is a nice point whether man-fighting or cock-fighting was the older sport, but personally I think the sod has it over the ring.

The earliest mention of a fighting-cock in any historical work comes in the Second Book of Kings, Ch. IV, vv. 30 and 31. The Rabbi David, a learned Hebrew doctor of letters construed the "Nergal" spoken of in these verses as being a champion fighting-cock worshipped by the Samaritans. That the successful generals of the Roman republic, and also the ancient Greek Fathers, were cockers is a matter of history. The Carthaginians were of Phoenician origin, and it was the Phoenician traders who brought the black Henne cocks to Cornwall. Cocking, then, was an old sport when it made its first appearance in this land, and, like the pheasant, we owe the fighting-cock to the East. Through all the vicissitudes of invasion cocking held its own. No change of ruler, no Saxon Thane or Norman usurper ever wiped out this sport; not that any of them tried to; indeed many of our kings enthused over a recreation that won for itself the title of "The Poyal Pastime of Cocking".

#### Recreation of Nobility

Established in its regal favour by Henry II the cock-pit survived the strife that tinged the Yorkist Rose with red; the sense of Nationhood, that dawned in England's breast and under Tudor rule defied both Don and Pope, was fostered in its militancy by the fighting of the cocks; no crop-eared regicides, with killjoy zeal, could suppress the sport of the gentlemen of England who were still up for the King, so, on the Restoration, cocking once more enjoyed the royal countenance, and, together with racing, became again the recreation of the nobility.

The royal countenance it continued to enjoy through Hanoverian times and, riding on the crest of that wave of sport that preserved in our manhood those characteristics that overcame the great Napoleon, it was in the Regency period and during the succeeding reigns, indeed until it fell under the legal ban, that cock-fighting reached its widest popularity.

#### Sport at Newmarket

The sports of the Turf and of the Sod grew up together at Newmarket, fostered and encouraged by Charles II. It was about then that the elder Clay was fashioning spurs, and we read of the Merry Monarch making a present of a pair to Nell Gwynn. As a matter of fact it was far more likely to have been the other way about, for of what use were spurs to Sweet Nell? But a pair of excellent heels might prove a worthy spur to waning royal attentions. Whoever the donor, and whichever the recipient, these spurs passed at last into the hands of John Harris of Liskeard, one of the most famous of the Fathers of the Sod, and jealously he guarded them for their royal associations.

Charles II bred and fought a famous bird whose pictures are still extant. He was known as "The Royal Pyle" but beyond this one record there is very little to tell us which other types the iKng favoured, or any details about them as to breeding or their weights.

#### Weights

At the time of the Regency small cocks held sway in the hearts of the fanciers, birds weighing from 3 lb. 6 oz. to 4 lb. 8 oz. and which were known as "battle-cocks". Larger birds were known as "shake-bags", and sometimes weighed as much as 12 lb. Shake-bags were not taken seriously by master-cockers, and they were said to have obtained their names through their patrons—they were popular in Holland—applying themselves more assiduously to brandy than to cocking; too drunk to risk handling their spurred charges in the pit the Dutchman were wont to shake a couple of birds on to the sod and to leave the rest to them!

But all the romance of the pit hangs round the little English cock. Perhaps the weights I have given make the battle-cock out smaller than he was, for birds were weighed three days before fighting in those days, not at the pit-side as now, and clever feeders might well build up a pound of that extra weight between the weighing of their birds and the time that they were sodded.

#### Characteristics

What were the characteristics of the battle-cock?

Let me give them in the words of "R. H." (Robert Howlett), the author of *The Royal Pastime*, a treatise published in 1709. "Now for the Election of those Royal Warlike Birds, for that is the first step in Cocking, you must note that there

war-like and active than the shake-bag. Furthermore, he claims that the smaller cocks are more easily and cheaply reared and that they can look after themselves in a way that the "great Game-Cock" can never do, requiring as he does full feeding and careful nursing all his life. "Your hand must still sustain him or he comes to nothing, want quickly brings upon him the Black Sickness, and the lazy lubber dies."

#### Walking of game-cock

But upon one thing all cockers ancient and modern are universally agreed: it is the axiom "The roost makes or mars the cock."

This points out the necessity of fine good walks for stags (cocks under a year old) and here the cocker of the palmy days had a tremendous advantage over the cocker of today. In those spacious times the tenant farmers walked a stag as a matter of course, many landlords included the walking of a game-cock and of a foxhound puppy in the clauses of a tenancy agreement.

When the time of combat approached the cocks were taken off their walks and put into the hands of "feeders". These craftsmen jeal-



GAME COCK BY DALBY OF YORK

are four things chiefly to be observed in your choice of Cocks, viz., Courage, Closeheels, Shape and Size."

True courage in a game-cock meant aggressive courage. The cocker of old considered as worthless a bird who stood up to be cut and slashed but who did not fiercely retaliate while life lasted.

The true-bred cock of the game, says "R. H.", never fails to strike or peck whilst he has either blood or breath left in him.

As regards closeheels, that was greatly a matter of breeding, and the old-time cocker bred from sure heelers' such as have ever been noted to Point true, and Point well in the Battles."

The old strains, being bred in-and-in, all maintained their several characteristics, but all were closeheelers.

Cocks of the game have maintained their standards and type throughout the ages, and there is a rare Roman coin extant which pictures two cocks fighting, and the description in *The Royal Pastime* might well have been written about one of them.

Speaking of the size of a game-cock, our quoted authority is strong in his favour of the little battle-cock, which he considers far more

ously guarded their secret methods of preparing cocks for battle. There is not the space for the comparison of the different methods of the outstanding feeders, suffice it to say that they sparred their cocks (placing little boxing-gloves on the stubs of their spurs) and physicked and sweated them, and then fed them up in the pens to a state of fighting fitness, using weird preparations of "cock-bread", whether of their own design, or handed down to them by hereditary or local tradition.

#### Feeding recipes

There are many recipes, but I will confine myself to that recommended in *The Royal Pastime*.

"3-4 of a peck of the finest wheat meal, 1-4 of a peck of purest oatmeal, mix together and add the white of 20 new laid eggs, 4 yolks, an ounce of the extract of liquorice, an ounce of powdered sugar candy, 1-4 ounce of Aniseeds and Caraway seeds, a lump of good sweet butter as big as your fist, 1-4 pint of the best white wine, three of four spoonfuls of clove-gilliflowers, at date or two, Candied Eringo-roots cut very small, the whole well kneaded together. Then take Wood-sorrel, Ground Ivy, Featherfew, Dandelion and Burrage in equal parts, distill them and add the pure juice of a lemon to every

## Horse Shows

Continued From Page 12

Knock-down-and-out—1. Mad Money; 2. Analize; 3. Reubin; 4. Uptown.  
Green hunter stake—1. Hancock Drive; 2. Jack Daniels; 3. Mimosa; 4. Hobo.  
ASPCA horsemanship—1. Terry Coker; 2. Ann Robertson; 3. Sue Coker; 4. Ann Page.  
Working hunter stake—1. Baldaquin, Malda Reager; 2. Lehigh; 3. Brenda; 4. Bald Eagle.  
Open jumper stake—1. Analize; 2. Reubin; 3. Uptown; 4. Bubbles.  
Conformation hunter stake—1. Tuxedo; 2. Colonel; 3. Verdina Girl.

## South Miami Riding Club Thanksgiving

Time after time, class after class, in fact, whenever Dan McColgan takes the course on Irish, his saddle-bred working hunter and open jumper, the spectators watch with great interest. Refusing to touch a jump, Irish captured the jumping stake. Vieing for honors with last year's Florida Circuit champion, George Allen, ridden by Horace Larkins and owned by Dr. Arden H. Thomas, Irish held his own ground. Both ex-5-gaited horses, George Allen and Irish outperformed the Thoroughbreds in both jumping events as well as Irish winning the working hunter event.

A green hunter, owned and ridden by Mrs. Don Arnold, shows great promise for future shows. Recently shipped down from Kentucky where he won a few ribbons, Handall did very well for his first Florida show.

#### SHOW CORRESPONDENT Merle Whittaker

PLACE: South Miami, Fla.  
TIME: November 28-30.  
JUDGE: Mrs. Jack C. Young.

#### SUMMARIES

Working hunter—1. Irish, Dan, McColgan; 2. Peg's Pride, Sara McCutchan; 3. Brass Band, Harry Whittaker.

Juvenile hunter horsemanship—1. Nancy Seashult; 2. Lisa Luris; 3. Vesta Hoagland; 4. Susan Clements; 5. Rae Whittaker.

Knock-down-and-out—1. George Allen, A. H. Thomas; 2. Irish; 3. Peg's Pride; 4. Brass Band.

Hunter hack—1. Patsy, Homer St. Gaudens; 2. Brass Band; 3. Irish; 4. Bewitched, Colonel Modisette.

Model hunters—1. Brass Band; 2. Bewitched; 3. Handall, Mrs. Don Arnold; 4. Irish.

Jumping stake—1. Irish; 2. George Allen; 3. Peg's Pride; 4. Brass Band.

Adult English pleasure—1. White Mink, Mrs. L. H. Hunt; 2. Nancy Highland's Love, Iris Marks; 3. Kalarama Trinket, Tinker Mann.

Pleasure ponies—1. Blaze, Delores Robinson; 2. Renfro, Sue Hammond; 3. Maggie, Pam Garrison.

Juvenile English pleasure—1. White Mink; 2. Pretty Girl, Sandra Curran; 3. Kalarama Trinket.

Bareback—1. Teena, Sandra Doorkees; 2. Petty Pat, Kitty Canfield; 3. Flame, Allen Williams.

English pleasure—1. White Mink; 2. Champ, Sally Haad; 3. Jodie Barrymore, Jimmy Fausett.

#### INITIAL OUTING

The W. Haggin Perrys have shipped their show horses up and down the eastern coast from their Cobham, Va. stable to provide keen competition on the eastern show circuit. Mr. Perry, who has branched out into the hunt meeting and flat circles, will see his colors go postward at Hialeah Park this winter for the first time at this track.

pint of distilled water, and add as much of this Julip as will make all into a good stiff paste.

"Make into little flat loaves and cut off the crust."

With the birds fighting-fit it remained to keep them up to the mark with barley steeped in sherry or squares of cock-bread soaked in port. Verily there is significance in the saying, "Fed like a fighting-cock!"

#### Spurs

Then before the battle they were spurred, and here again the ancients had a vast advantage over the moderns, the making of silver spurs appearing to be a lost art.

The two clays of Norwich, Thomas Smith of Katherine Street in the Strand, Gregory, Harry Green, Henry Gatesfield, Samuel Toulmin of the "Dial and Crown" at Hungerford Market, and Vincent, the last maker of silver, all these and other less-known workmen produced the beautiful little weapons that now are prized beyond all price by their owners, for they can never be reproduced. A maxim of the old days was "A gentleman's bird fights in silver", of more recent years many mains were fought in steel, the best specimens of which are manufactured in the United States.

(To be continued)

## (EDITORIAL) CHRONICLE CONTRIBUTORS

Continued From Page 2

Sixteen people have served on the editorial staff, the longest in point of service, beside the founders, being Nancy Lee. It has been a capable staff, often overworked, always enthusiastic. Obviously, however, the staff alone could never have created The Chronicle. What it has become, what it will be in the future will depend upon its corps of correspondents. If they and many more will take pen in hand and will put down their thoughts and deeds in the field of sport, The Chronicle will not only equal, but surpass The Spirit of the Times.

## Letters To The Editor

## "Forward Schooling"

Dear Editor;

Judging by the letter which appeared in the November 28th issue of your magazine there exists in the minds of some of those who never were in personal contact with me, a misunderstanding regarding my teaching. Hence I would appreciate very much your publishing my following statement.

To a superficial observer "Forward Schooling", which I use in making hunters or jumpers, may seem identical with the type of training which in this country is usually called "Dressage", particularly because some exercises bear the same name. However the fundamental difference between these two types of schooling is tremendous. Perhaps the simplest way to illustrate it briefly is by comparing extremes.

James Fillis, in the preface to his famous book, the original French

title of which as Principes De Dressage, says—"My method of equitation consists in distribution of weight by the height of the neck bent at the poll...; propulsion by means of the hocks brought under the body; and lightness by the loosening of the lower jaw".

All this means that Fillis' dressage was based on collection, and later in the book he states that "the rassembler (collection) which is the act of getting a horse in hand to a maximum extent, is the complete equilibrium of the animal in all movements". Every "dressage rider" with whom I have spoken on the subject felt the same way about the balance of the horse.

On the other hand, Federico Caprilli's method (in the words of Captain P. Santini) required that—"the horse should be interfered with as little as possible and that, although continually under the rider's control, he should move with the freedom and natural balance of a

riderless animal".

The crux of everything is, of course, the big question—how the horse balances himself, and Caprilli as well as all his followers (myself among them) interpret it differently from the way typical manege riders do. On this subject I would like to quote from another French book—The Exterior Of The Horse by A. Goubaux and G. Barrier:-

"The movement of the body over the ground implies displacements of the centre of gravity and, consequently, a destruction of the initial equilibrium, which incessantly compels the members to form new bases of support. Hence the members, each in their turn, come and prop it in front according to the ingenious comparison of Richerand, in the manner of the spokes of a wheel in relation to the weight of the hub which they sustain; the rapidity with which they succeed each other is so much more frequent as the imminence of a fall is greater. Here is the reason of the correctness of the expression, that the instability of the equilibrium, in the gaits, gives the measure of the velocity."

All this means that in order to enjoy an easy and secure balance the horse must have freedom to use his body in a natural way.

From this point of view the best of the American traditional way of making a hunter is much closer to Caprilli's method than to Dressage.

Of course learning has no end, and while we have considerably improved on the original Italian "Sistema" we could still pick up many good ideas from abroad, but I think that at present the reverse is also the case. And today I do fail to see the supremacy of Europe in every field of riding. For instance, when I was in Europe four years ago I saw no class as beautiful as the working hunter classes in the National Show this fall, and my friends who have been there recently tell me that they have not, either.

Some, I know, would like to call my method of schooling "Elementary Dressage", but this popular term would hardly present my work in its true light. There is nothing elementary about the advanced stages of my schooling and, pursuing certain aims, it is as final as are, let us say, the Plaffe or Pirouette in another equestrian game.

Sincerely yours,

V. S. Littauer

December 6  
Hillside Farm  
Syosset, Long Island, N. Y.

## U. S. Riders and Horses

Dear Editor:

I have followed the activities of the U. S. Equestrian Team with enormous interest and was amazed at their remarkable achievement, especially Mr. Billy Steinkraus' performances on Democrat. I have heard that the horse is to be retired and could not help but wonder how

and where this wonderful campaigner was to be taken care of.

There must be many other Chronicle readers who are also anxious to know what exact disposition is to be made of both Democrat and Tottilla, as they should have their richly deserved reward.

Before closing I would like to extend the warmest of congratulations, and express sincere appreciation to the entire U. S. Team. I think every American can feel justly proud of the record these volunteers have made.

Sincerely,

Tatian Drowne

(Mrs. H. Russell Drowne, Jr.)

December 8, 1952

New York, N. Y.

## Hunt Meeting Corrections

Dear Editor:

Stop me if I'm wrong, but I think there are some errors in your Hunt Racing and Steeplechasing statistics.

M. H. Dixon, Sr. and M. H. Dixon, Jr. were frequently confused during the year and reported incorrectly in the Triangle Publication charts from the major tracks. At Belmont Park on May 20, the charts added Jr. to the winning trainer's name for "Spleen's victory. The program that day listed the trainer as "M. H. Dixon". . . .therefore, "Spleen comes off Jr.'s list of winners. On June 9, at Belmont, the charts failed to carry Jr. in the credit for Low Flyer's victory. Delete one and add one for each trainer and change horses.

Now go to June 4, at Belmont Park. "Byng won but was later disqualified and his purse awarded to Mantle, which ran 2nd. This horse was trained by M. H. Dixon, Jr., so add one to his total and this makes 15 winning horses trained by M. H. Dixon, Jr. at the hunt race meetings and over jumps on the major courses.

Re: Mrs. William C. Wright's Sandy Flash. He is credited with a winning race in the hunt race statistics and A. C. Stokes is credited with training the gelding.

Sandy Flash finished 1st in a one-mile turf race at Whitmarsh Valley on September 27. However, he was one of seven of the nine starters to be disqualified by the Stewards for cutting a beacon. Powder Pass, owned and trained by A. C. Stokes, finished 4th, but was awarded the race. This horse and J. D. McCaffery's Sweet Money, which finished 6th, were the only starters to take the proper course. This makes Sandy Flash a non-winner for the year and puts Powder Pass in the list of hunt race winners trained by Stokes.

By the way, Sandy Flash is trained by M. H. Dixon, Sr.

Regards to the staff,

Chris Wood, Jr.,  
Field Director

December 13, 1952  
Philadelphia, Pa.

(Editor's Note: The Chronicle thanks Chris Wood, Jr., field director of the United Hunts Racing Association, for straightening us out on the hunt meeting records. We failed to pick up the errors when the final tabulations were made. "Byng's disqualification resulted after an analysis showed that he was stimulated).

## True Meaning of Word

Dear Editor:

In his letter in your November 28 issue, Mr. Edward L. Bimberg is quite right, of course, when he reminds us that the true meaning of the word "dressage" is simply "training".

But alas! most American horsemen have the habit, pernicious though it may be, of using the word to describe a particular kind of training! So why be "amused" at Miss Janet Hamiltonburg because—in her natural desire to be understood—she followed American usage in reporting the conclusions reached at Captain Littauer's schooling session at the Millwood Hunt Club?

As for the engaging implication (doubtless unintended by Mr. Bimberg) that because Captain Littauer Continued On Page 17

## Classifieds

All requests for insertions should be sent to the advertising office, Berryville, Va. 25 cents per word including address, minimum charge per insertion: \$5.00. Add \$1.00 if name is withheld and answers are to be cleared through The Chronicle. No classifieds accepted after the Friday preceding publication.

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## HORSES

Consistent hunter trials winner, ch. g., 15.3, excellent manners, snaffle mouth, hunted 3 seasons by lady. Suitable for young rider. Capable of big country. Mrs. Frank D. Christman, Route 1, Rockville, Md. Phone: Poplar 2-1212, 1t chg.

Six-year-old, bay mare, 15.3 hands, sound by Count Morse out of Little Charmer by "Sun Charmer. This mare schooled well over hurdles at Saratoga. She is half-sister to the stakes winners Cupid and Little Sammie. Excellent hurdle or broodmare prospect. Owner has no place to keep her, must sell! First \$350, buys her. This is an outstanding opportunity. Contact Henry Bartow, Ambler, Pa. Phone: 1151, 1t pd

Brown gelding, 3-year-old, by "Piping Rock, 16.1, quiet disposition, can be ridden by lady or child. Is being schooled and jumping beautifully. Sound and priced for quick sale. Emmett Roberts, Middleburg, Va. Phone 4511. 12-19-1t ch

Tourland Thoroughbred bay gelding, 16.2, 6 years. Excellent jumper, perfect manners. Shown by young lady very successfully for the past two years. Owner away at school. Can be seen and tried anytime at Boulder Brook Club, Scarsdale, New York. SC 3-4200. 1t c

Seven-year-old 16 hand, good boned chestnut gelding, Red Flag by Flag Pole. Shown successfully by lady. Hunted with Radnor and Camden, S. C. hunts. Especially good manners. Owner Irl Daffin. Can be seen at Gordon Wright's Secor Farms Riding Club, White Plains, N. Y. 12-19-2t chg.

## REAL ESTATE

In hunt country, 6-acres with modernized 7-room house, beamed and paneled living room with fireplace. Stable, 7 box stalls, tack room. Price, \$28,000.00. P. M. Browning, Realtor, John H. Hitt, Associate, Culpeper, Virginia. 1t ch

## TRAILER

Two-horse trailer, excellent condition, light, strong, tows easily. Kingdom Farm, Leesburg, Va. 384-W-11. 12-19-2t chg.

## DOGS

Norwich (Jones) Terriers. P. O. Box 96. Upperville, Virginia. 1t

Labrador retrievers. 10-month males from hunting and field trial stock. Large and ready commence training. Henry Loomis, Middleburg, Va. Phone: 5021. 12-12-4t ch.

Norwich terriers. Puppies, whelped July 26th. Just right for Christmas. Well bred, registered, but reasonable. Mrs. Paul E. Peabody, Millbrook, N. Y. 12-12-2t ch.

## Wanted

## HORSE

Wanted, a good jumper around 16.0 hands, for a 15-year-old girl. Horse to be around 7 years old, one that is well schooled and good enough to show. Apply full particulars to Box NJ, The Chronicle, Berryville, Va. 1t chg.

## JOINT-M.F.H.

Rare opportunity for keen hunting man to learn complete duties of Master of Hounds while serving as Joint-M. F. H. with famous Irish pack. All phases of hunting from kennel management and hound breeding, to hunting hounds in the field will be stressed. Hunting 2 or 3 days a week from September to April. Accommodations for single man can be found, and aid in securing horses, etc. Will be provided opportunity to hunt with a variety of packs—also shooting, fishing and racing. Box NL, The Chronicle, Berryville, Va. 12-19-4t chg.

## POSITION

Woman, 29, qualified instructor and stable manager. Persistent, patient and particular. Owns car. Box NK, The Chronicle, Berryville, Va. 1t chg.

# Jousting In Maryland

Gallant Lads Compete For Honor of Crowning Their Lady the "Queen of Love and Beauty"

Samuel J. Henry

The time is August 20; the place is Marshall Hall in Charles County, Md., on the Maryland Bank of the Potomac River. The spot is saturated with history—but that's another story.

That our people are desperately clinging to what has seemed good to them in the past was proven when a crowd of 3,000 gathered to witness some 20 young horsemen pit their skill as tournament knights in the Hall's 67th annual tilting contest. That carried it back to 1885.

Not in armour, these knights, as in the chivalrous times of Sir Lancelot, to spur heavy war chargers crashing against their mounted opponents, but on light horses neatly to spear the challenging rings suspended from archways 30 yards apart on a grassy course.

Everybody is in carnival humor and in the shade of an oak grove, hampers of food have been piled on the rustic tables. Folks who have not come by automobiles have arrived by the steamer Mount Vernon from Washington, 25 miles up the river. When I was a boy they came by horseback, buggy and ox-cart, as well as by steamer. That was back in the 1880's when my parents, as a great treat, took me to the Hall where I pestered my dad for a time to ride the pony.

As usual in tolerant, easy going, Charles County, God Bless You, this public event, mixing sport, politics and a good time, brings out many old timers (70 and up). I heard a pair of bearded patriarchs discussing the part their ancestors had played in the Civil War. One said "Yes, I recall my father telling about Uncle Billy Hammond, came over the mountains with Stonewall Jackson and was killed at Bull Run."

It's a hot humid day, good for corn and tobacco, and after a glass of ice cold beer and chicken salad in the lunch room, I moved over to the head of the course where the knights and their horses are assembled. Down in front of the judge's stand, where the political speeches are being delivered, a segment of County Folk are paying close attention. But I take a close look at the horses. They are on the small side, perfectly trained to cover the straightaway with practically no guidance from the riders; in fact,

the horse seems to sense the part he has to play. One animal, all white, including mane and tail, caught my fancy. He seemed to be half Arabian and half Thoroughbred; his big luminous eyes loaded with intelligence and later when ridden by several riders, he always contributed a steady performance.

I was told that the best tournament horse really sets his own pace—a middle speed of 60 yards in 6 seconds, and A. D. Langley, an erstwhile tournament rider, who managed the show, recalled a mare he owned which, when she felt him leaning to the right, bore over until he equalized his weight.

The knights are divided into amateurs and professionals; an amateur becomes a professional when he has won at two tournaments. In every heat each rider gets 3 tries at the 3 rings, after which by a process of elimination, the winner is selected. For the amateurs the rings start at 1 1/4 inches; they finally ride off at 5-8 of an inch. One inch rings are for the professionals at first; the final eliminations are fought over half rings, as severe a test of riding and aiming as one can imagine.

The lance weighs about 3 1/2 pounds, is generally 6 feet long, tipped with steel and beautifully balanced.

For the benefit of young men who are being crowded out of horse shows and fox hunting by the fair sex, it can be said that while quite a few girls have tried tournament riding, they failed to make the grade and soon dropped out. Although there was one at the Hall who gave a good account of herself.

The winner among the amateurs is the romantic hero because while he only receives a modest \$20 cash reward, he has, in addition, the coveted honor of crowning his lady love with a floral wreath, which entitles her to be known as the Queen of Love and Beauty, a rare kind of distinction and one which probably will be long remembered by the Queen. All the more impressive in event the pair are duly united in holy wedlock at some future day.

This brings us to the professional knights. Here the top man takes down an opulent \$35 but, alas, earns no crown for his fair lady, the pre-

sumption being that with the larger cash dividend he will be able to appease her (she might have no yearning for a crown, after all), on a more realistic—if less romantic—basis.

Now the speechmaking is over and the shrill notes of a bugle bring everybody on the grounds to the rails bordering the course. The band plays Maryland My Maryland and Roll Out The Barrel, the flags hang lazily and the balloon vendor does a thriving business, second only to the popcorn man.

Again the bugle commands attention, this time to call the amateurs. "Prepare to Charge, Knight of Marlboro", announces the starter, followed immediately by "Charge, Sir Knight."

A bright eyed boy of about 16, riding a chestnut in very short leathers, gets under way. He rises in the irons and levels his spear, piercing the first ring smack in the middle; it slides down and settles on the hickory stock of the lance. On he goes, grimly striking the rim of the second ring which flashes in the sunlight and falls to the ground. With no let up the determined lad speeds to the third arch where he gathers the ring. A motherly woman calls out, "Better luck next time." The boy, however, rides out, crest fallen.

Other knights follow, some snare only one ring; others two; a few garner three.

Now comes the "Knight of Beauty." He storms down the course and snares all 3 rings. In the finals he proves to be the best of the amateur class. He is Austin Flook, 20, of Boonsboro, Md. and his lady, Miss Adelaide Enfield, 16.

Among the professionals, the winner turns up in Wayne Tucker, "Knight of Frederick", 25, of Jefferson, Md.

At these tournaments they follow

## Letters To The Editor

Continued From Page 16

questions the usefulness of this particular kind of training for hunters and jumpers, he must therefore prefer unschooled horses—only one comment:

It has nostalgic charm. It recalls the fine old paleolithic days of horsemanship—of the attitude which dug in its toes at a whisper of anything new, and which proclaimed, in effect:

"You disagree with my schooling methods? . . . You are wrong. And—I strongly suspect—wrong on purpose!"

An out-of-date attitude, of course; it took a beating from Captain Caprilli, the great Italian, when he fought for the principles of forward riding and forward schooling. He won the battle—but suppose he hadn't? Would we still be jumping fences with our rumps playing pitch-and-toss with our horses' rumps? Could be.

Sincerely,

David H. Munroe

December 6, 1952

New York, N. Y.

Continued On Page 18

a pleasant custom when three rings are speared, of having the Grand Marshall and Aides (all ladies) gallop to the end of the course and escort the knight to the judges' stand. These Dianas, in dazzling white, made a fascinating trio. The Marshall was a brunette with a red sash and the aides were blondes who sported yellow sashes. Of course, there was a tournament ball and so ended a day of sport and frolic which somehow impressed me as one of our few connecting links with the Middle Ages.

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SADDLE AND BRIDLE, mo.	5.00	—
FLORIDA CATTLEMAN, mo.	2.00	.25
PALOMINO HORSES, monthly	1.00	.35
THE THOROUGHBRED OF CALIFORNIA, monthly	1.00	.25
HOOPS & HORNS, monthly, rodeos	2.00	.30
MORGAN HORSE, monthly	1.50	.35
THOROUGHBRED RECORD, weekly	6.00	.15
THE MARYLAND HORSE, monthly	2.00	.25
BREEDER-STOCKMAN, m., (horses & cattle)	2.00	.25
THE RANCHMAN, mo.	2.00	.35
HORSE LOVER, bi-monthly (Calif.)	3.00	.35
ARABIAN HORSE NEWS, 10 issues	3.00	.35
AMERICAN SHETLAND PONY JOURNAL, mo.	3.00	.25
NATIONAL HORSEMAN, m.	5.00	—
HOOSIER EQUESTRIAN, 10 issues	3.00	.35
MISSISSIPPI STOCKMAN-FARMER, m.	1.00	.15
CANADIAN HORSE & THOROUGHBRED, m.	4.00	.50
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THE CHRONICLE, INC.

Berryville, Virginia

Letters to the Editor  
Continued From Page 17

Royal Horse Show

Dear Editor:

Having been an enthusiastic reader of The Chronicle for many years, I immediately thought of writing you when I received this interesting letter from my brother the other day. He is 2nd Lt. David H. Timmons and is stationed in Yokohama, Japan with the Army, and he wrote me an interesting and detailed description of the Royal Horse Show at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo commemorating the Proclamation of the Investiture of H. I. H. The Crown Prince on November 30, 1952.

My father, sister, brother and I have hunted our Thoroughbreds with the Rocky Fork Headley Hunt in Gahanna, Ohio for many years, and thus our extreme delight in receiving this account of such an unusual horse show. To fully visualize this event, I will quote directly from his letter.

"Last Sunday I had the rare privilege of attending the Royal Horse Show at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo. This was really quite an occasion and is renowned to be one of the social events of the year in Japanese high society. I had heard about it some weeks ago and had a great urge to get back to the scene and scent of horses. My buddy knows, through business dealings of his father's this prominent foreign trader in Tokyo. We approached him on the matter of the horse show and he said he'd see if he could get us invited (one has to be officially asked to such a function). Well, to make a long story short, this man did get us two invitations, so Sunday morning we caught the train for the big city of Tokyo. We met this gentleman at the Tokyo station and took a taxi to the Palace.

"We got out there and went across the first of many moats and through portals in the huge stone walls that surround this stately yet mysterious dwelling-place of the Japanese royalty. Finally we reached the immense innermost gate and upon presentation of our invitations to the Guards were admitted to the inner sanctum of the Palace grounds. There among gardens and tennis courts and buildings was a large arena near which were many stables and all. There was quite a gathering of the elite. Foreign diplomats, Japanese big shots, American Army brass, etc. But the atmosphere was nearly identical to a big horse show at home.

"There were seats all around the ring, an announcer's stand and, of course, the place of honor for the royal family. In the large ring was set up a tremendous course of jumps of all types, fourteen in all. The classes were all to be either jumping, equitation or dressage—none of this gaited or walking horse stuff! Everyone rode the forward seat and the horses were the finest of Thoroughbreds, Arabians and crosses thereof. The competitors were all members of the Palace Riding Club—some Americans, many Japanese equestrians (schoolboys and older men). The Japanese as a whole rode infinitely better than the Americans who competed. They are very good horsemen, of course they were more professionals while the Americans were just amateur Army riders and the like.

"The high point of the show was the presence of Crown Prince Akihito (who has just been proclaimed Heir apparent to the throne amid much pageantry over here. He is sixteen now). The Crown Prince rode his beautiful white Arabian in several events. He's an excellent horseman, of course the horse is perfectly trained. He was around all the time and often was mingling with the crowd. I took several pictures of him close-up. Also on his horse—and a couple as he was going over the jumps.

"The children's jumping class had completed and the grand parade at which the crowd gave three cheers for the Prince had just finished when an announcement came over the PA system—in both Japanese and English—"ladies and gentlemen, the Emperor and Empress". Everyone stood in silence while the fanfare of trumpets announced the arrival on the scene of Emperor Hirohito. He was driven up to the place

of honor in his ancient but very ornate Mercedes-Benz limousine (of course I got a picture of that car). After the Japanese National Anthem, everyone sat down and the show continued. Every contestant who entered the ring had to ride up in front of the Emperor and bow down before going over the jumps.

"The next class was a rough course of jumps ranging in heights from one meter to one and one-half meters. There were in and outs, stone walls, brushes, triple bars, oxers, pickets, everything in the book. The ring was very muddy. In every jumping class they not only scored points on performance but also considered time!

"The tragedy of the show came in this main jumping event. A Japanese college boy was riding a big bay. He did OK over the first four jumps. The fifth was a formidable log jump of considerable height. The horse slipped going into the jump and only about half rose for the jump. The horse hit the logs and was flipped completely over, landing on his back on the other side of the jump and right on top of the rider. The boy was killed instantly. They carried the body out on a stretcher and the show went on. I've seen jumping accidents but that was the worst—it can happen so easily. The peculiar thing about the accident was the reaction. The Americans present were quite concerned and sympathetic but the Japs showed no emotion. They just hauled out the body and considered the boy very fortunate to have died without sight of the Emperor! In fact the very next contestant in that class was the Crown Prince himself. He made a beautiful round, though, with only a few ticks and one knock-down, on the in and out. Still incredibly the Prince only placed third. Democracy has come to Japan! Before no one would have dared outscore the Prince of the Nippon Empire.

"Next there was a demonstration of the Ancient Japanese style of riding. Very peculiar. The riders in elaborate costume unreel long streamers of silk as the horse gathers speed until finally they have some ten yards of silk flying out behind the fast trotting horse.

There was an excellent display of dressage in the form of a quadrille by the Royal ring masters. It was strictly 'de l'ecole haute equestrienne francaise' and very well done. There was a jumping exhibition by an Olympic rider from Japan's team. He was the only one of the show in colors although many others wore proper hunting attire.

"I got many color pictures. There's even one of the Emperor and Empress. We really rubbed elbows with the Royalty and the whole afternoon was quite enjoyable. It was good to get back to a horse show. It was really much like a show in the states except for the people present, a few strange customs and the announcer's jabbering away in Japanese. They even televised the show. Japan is now experimenting with TV although no one has a receiving set. You could sit in a sort of large tack room and watch the show on TV. It was right next to the ring.

"I walked all through the stables—there were some fine horses. The sight of the little Jap boys straining with big pitchforks as they cleaned out the stalls sure reminded me of home. Of course they use rice straw for bedding, otherwise it's the same old job even on the other side of the world! I had a big urge to get back in the saddle again and try those hurdles. If I were going to be here awhile I'd sure try to do some riding if I could get in on that Imperial Riding Club. There aren't many horses in Japan on the whole. They use oxen for draft animals."

Accompanying the above letter was an invitation to the show and the official horse show program. Both are printed in Japanese on one side and English on the other. The program's only picture is of the Crown Prince taking a jump and proves the perfection of both the rider and the horse. I consider them very priceless souvenirs.

David's great interest and love of horses led him to take advantage of this truly rare and exciting occasion and I wanted to share it with someone who holds this same love and interest. I certainly hope that you enjoyed reading the letter as much

as I enjoyed receiving it.

Sincerely,

Mitzi Timmons

December 11, 1952

Worthington, Ohio

Information Appreciated

Dear Editor:

My deepest thanks for the information about Moifaa and as usual, you have kindly supplied the data I have been seeking elsewhere without success.

I look forward eagerly each week for my copy of The Chronicle. Suppose you saw where Pine Pep will not start in The National... I think Mike Smithwick is pleased as he did not think Pine Pep would do well over the Aintree brush course. I hope he will be brought back promptly, and trained for The Maryland Hunt Cup, hoping to be the first 4-time winner.

Best wishes to The Chronicle under the new ownership.

Very truly yours,

Felix R. Sullivan, Jr.

December 14

Baltimore, Md.

Suggestion

Dear Editor:

The Fairfield County Hunt would like to suggest reprinting of Clifton Lisle's poem Hunting Hill which appeared in the April 11, 1952 Chronicle as an epitaph to Homer Gray M. F. H. Rombout.

Sally Parrott, honorary secy.

December 2

Fairfield, Conn.

V.H.S.A. Meeting

Continued From Page 12

Full O'War	136
(Dr. A. C. Randolph)	
Nordame	107½
(Mrs. James C. Hamilton)	
Good Gold	97½
(Dr. Asa Shield)	
General Patton	87
(Ballantree)	
Prince Andrew	76½
(Meander Farm)	
Borealis	70
(Springsbury Farm)	
Lucky Ann	64½
(George Cutting)	

Working Hunters

	No. Points
Sun Hazard	397½
(Mr. and Mrs. W. Haggin Perry)	
Waverly Molly	232
(Nancy Lee Huffman)	
Defense	163½
(Peggy Augustus)	
Sky's Shadow	136
(Claude W. Owen)	
Sidonea	122½
(William Sumner)	
Ally Broom	114
(Maxine Ix)	
Dynaflo	93
(Mr. and Mrs. W. Haggin Perry)	
Iccapade	92
(Mrs. Page Jennings)	
Both Ways	64
(Mr. and Mrs. J. North Fletcher)	
Cheesecake	62½
(Laura Lee Shreve)	

Jumpers

	No. Points
Bedford	251½
(Harry J. Ryan)	
Red Knight	225
(Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Hallman)	
South Paw	199
(Mrs. Anne Leach)	
Little Hero	193
(William Schlusemeyer)	
Half Moon	114½
(New Hope Farm)	
Eager Beaver	113
(Langgolen Farm)	
Little Moon	110
(New Hope Farm)	
Impulsive	107
(William Schlusemeyer)	
Golden Chance	84½
(Bert Firestone)	
Royal Knight	72
(Harry J. Ryan)	

V.H.A. High Score Award  
2-year-olds

	No. Points
Mind Mill	75
(Waverly Farm)	
Itch	69
(Waverly Farm)	
Shooters Hill	63
(Penny Armstrong)	
Jazz Session	54
(Mr. and Mrs. W. Haggin Perry)	
Custom	47
(Mrs. R. Furnival)	

Equitation Programs

Continued From Page 9

horses owned by college boys interested in inter-collegiate rodeo competition. An Irish groom would have approved.

Time Factor

Where do we stand regarding all the objections to these ideas? Time? Time can be found if it is sincerely sought and such programs will more than compensate by virtue of increased participation. Additional services? The children may get in the grooms' hair once in a while, but the groom either gets a kick out of it, has a sense of proportion, or he isn't the kind you want around a barn full of kids anyway. True, the instructor may put in some more time and it may be necessary to hire one that can handle this kind of an assignment. Actually, however, you reduce the wear-and-tear on the horses which is a material saving. For the complete cynic who says that children don't care whether or not they learn to ride properly and safely, I can only offer to them the used car business or Hollywood. The horses? We'll tackle that problem in a forthcoming article.

Boil it all away and you have the blunt fact that if one is both qualified and ambitious, the other handicaps are fictitious. They are convenient crutches for those who are unable to offer anything better. The more I have to do with pupils—old or young—the more respect I have for their innate ability to sense the "silver" from the "brass". They may not say aloud what they sense—especially children—because they are not at the stage where they can completely verbalize their emotional reactions. But basically they can perceive the inadequacies of a teacher. It makes not one whit of difference what he teaches—horsemanship or philosophy—and all you have to do is to remember your college days and the professors you avoided. Once the pupil has this feeling of lack of confidence, it is highly difficult to teach him anything of a positive sort—teaching being an intimate and personal relationship. Dare we ask why instruction in equitation is often so unsatisfactory? More to the point, can corrective measures be practically adopted? What do you think?

Junior Hunters

	No. Points
April Dawn	123½
(Mrs. William Dillon)	
Short Circuit	92
(Caroline Evans)	
Tiny	83
(A. S. Dailey)	
Popsicle	69½
(Laura Lee Shreve)	
Cheesecake	40½
(Laura Lee Shreve)	
Windward	33
(Fox Hollow Stable)	
Waverly Molly	32
(Nancy Lee Huffman)	
Cetron	28
(North Hill Farm)	
Iccapade	26½
(Mrs. Page Jennings)	
Swift Spirit	26
(Page and Berkeley Jennings)	

Ponies

	No. Points
Popsicle	477½
(Laura Lee Shreve)	
Pinocchio	339½
(Penny Armstrong)	
Powder Puff	244½
(Laura Lawrence)	
Johnny Cake	238
(Waverly Farm)	
Chico	215½
(Laura Lee Shreve)	
Bigger Bit	214½
(Bobbie Harrison)	
Popcorn	164
(Bobbie Gardner)	
Make Believe	154
(Beverly Bryant)	
Windward	148½
(Fox Hollow Stable)	
Surprise	134
(Martha and Fritz Sterbak)	

V.H.S.A. Equitation

	No. Points
Laura Lee Shreve	49
Terry Drury	42
Russell Walther, Jr.	40
Toni Brewer	25
Nancy Graham	23
Beverly Bryant	17
Page Jennings	15
Alison Duffy	13
Lucy Lippard	11
Beverly Harrison	9
Courtney Wells	9

# In the Country



## JOINT-MASTER

The appointment of Mrs. W. Gordon Cox of Old Chatham, N. Y. as Joint-Master of the Carroll Hounds has been announced. Mrs. Cox joins John Carroll in the management of the affairs of the hunt which Mr. Carroll has carried on since 1939 when the Old Chatham Hunt was disbanded.

Mrs. Cox, "Wiggie" to her many friends—is an ardent foxhunter, having come from Meadow Brook to the Old Chatham in 1934 and since that time she has hunted regularly with the Old Chatham Hunt and the Carroll Hounds. For some time she was honorary secretary to the Carroll Hounds and subsequently served as Field Master until her present appointment. Mrs. Cox is also well known in other hunting fields in New York, Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Other appointments are Guy Wedthoff, Jr., formerly honorary whipper-in to the Metamora Hunt, to serve in the same capacity with Carroll Hounds in place of Captain Sydney R. Smith who will act as field secretary in the future. Captain Smith was formerly Master of the Lebanon Valley Hunt and the Old Chatham Hunt which hunted Columbia County, N. Y. as predecessors of Carroll Hounds.

## PINE PEP

Mrs. William J. Clothier's three-time winner of The Maryland Hunt Cup, the 12-year-old Pine Pep, has certainly not had his share of good luck since being shipped to Ivor Anthony's stable in England. The chestnut gelding by Petee-Wrack—Red Queen, by Mad Hatter was ready to go postward in October and because of a fall which his rider had had on \*Canford, the doctor decided at the last minute that the jockey could not ride. A week later Pine Pep was again scheduled to start and again his rider was kept on the ground because of the doctor's orders. Rather than put up a boy who had not ridden and schooled Pine Pep, Trainer Anthony kept the U. S. horse on the sidelines. Finding it hard to become acclimated, Pine Pep has been under par and was not able to go postward in November. With the closing date for entries fast approaching, it will be impossible for him to qualify for the Grand National. However, he could be run during the meeting over the same course but at a shorter distance, if his training is up to expectations.

## NEW SHEA ARRIVAL

Danny Shea, owner of Merryland Farm, Hyde, Maryland is the father of a 7-pound baby boy born December 14. The youngster arrived at the Union Memorial Hospital, Baltimore and both Mrs. Shea and the prospective young horseman were reported doing well.

## PROGRESS

The awful spectacle of fire which became an actuality at several tracks this year will meet opposition at Gulfstream Park. This track has added new fire fighting equipment and fire drills are held weekly to prepare for any emergency. Within 1-2 minutes of the sounding of the fire siren on the stable grounds, Gulfstream's fire fighters have reached the threatened section to start the flow of water. Jack Blair is in charge of the firemen and is striving to cut the elapsed time between alarm and action to a single minute.

## "BY STYMIE"

When Virginian won the 5th race at Bowie on December 15, he became the 4th 2-year-old winner, out of a first crop of six, by the onetime leading money winner Stymie. This was Virginian's 5th start and the best he could do in four previous outings was a 4th. Virginian was bred by steeplechase trainer, J. T. Skinner of Middleburg, Va. Mr. Skinner wintered the famed racer, Stymie, at his place during his racing career. The Bieber-Jacobs Stable paid \$12,500 for Virginian at the 1951 yearling sales at Saratoga.

## HOBBY HORSE FARM

The Don B. Arnolds have recently purchased a 20-acre place in Miami, Fla., Hobby Horse Farm. They have an outside course over which they have been schooling their new green hunter, Handall. Mrs. Arnold was formerly of Lexington, Ky. where she was a member of the Iroquois Hunt and worked on public relations at River Downs for The Thoroughbred Record. At the moment the Arnolds are planning to hold a hunter trial before the end of the year.

—Merle Whittaker

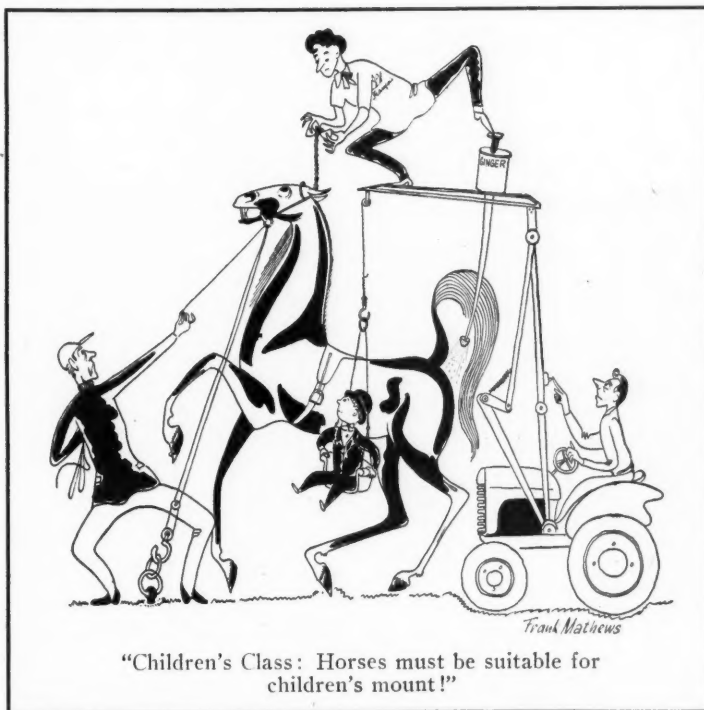
been since this past fall. While there Mr. Finney was shown around by Ivor Anthony and Peter Hastings and one point of interest was the stall which has stabled no less than 7 winners of the English Grand National. Among the winners were Royal Mail, Kellsboro Jack, Ascetic's Silver and Ally Sloper. Anyone who has read the book about the fabulous Brown Jack will recall the story about the horse "sitting" on his enamel manger to sleep. The 7-time winner of the Queen Alexandra Stakes at Ascot had his roost covered with burlop but did not find this to his liking and tore it off. The worn and chipped manger is still very much in evidence.

## R. V. N. GAMBRILL

A great loss occurred in the sporting world due to the death of R. V. N. Gambrill on December 10. Mr. Gambrill during his lifetime was an active participant in many phases of sport and it is very seldom that one finds a person with such keen interest in such a varied list of sports.

## NEW FARM

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Kelley of Ashantee Farm, Avon, N. Y. have purchased a farm in Geneseo, N. Y. to which they will move their stable on January 1. Originally from Westchester County, the Kelleys have maintained a boarding and sales stable in Geneseo Valley for the past six years. The most prominent horse whose sale was negotiated by Mr. Kelley was The Angel, which was sold by Mrs. R. B. Taylor of Buffalo to the Wee-3-Stable of New Rochelle, N. Y.



"Children's Class: Horses must be suitable for children's mount!"

## ORANGE COUNTY CASUALTIES

The thirteenth of December seems to have been as unlucky for the members of the Orange County field as the old superstition as to the number would have us believe. No less than six followers made sudden and close contact with Mother Earth in the course of a long hunt during which hounds gave a fine account of themselves under difficult scenting conditions. There was only one casualty, but that a most unfortunate one. George L. Ohrstrom, publisher of The Chronicle, was trotting quietly along on the flat when his horse put his foot in a hole and came down. The result was a broken leg, the same leg which was shattered last year by a kick from a horse, also in the hunting field. Fortunately the 1952 break was not nearly as bad as last season's version. On the other hand he will necessarily be missing from covert side for most of the balance of the season.

## VISITS WROUGHTON

When Humphrey S. Finney gets his foot in the road he always does a lot of travelling before the trip is over and he is back at his desk in Towson, Md. The first week in December he flew to England to be on hand for the Newmarket Sales. While in England he visited Wroughton, where Mrs. William J. Clothier's former timber horse, Pine Pep, has

## FORMER RIDER ILL

For some unknown reason there are always horsemen and horsewomen who call a vet at the first signs of sickness in a stable but overlook doing much when they themselves are on the ailing list. On December 12 the former top steeplechase rider, now trainer, Emmett Roberts, was busy around his stable in Middleburg, Va., finished up the morning there, visited The Chronicle office with owners from New Jersey and then started for Bowie, Md. On the way he became ill and he is now at Prince George Hospital, Room H411, Cheverly, Md.

## THEY STAY ON THE JUMP

What happens to the steeplechase riders when they take the fences down for the winter? The answer: some of them go south to Hialeah to stay fit galloping horses in the morning. Steeplechase jockeys Joe Santo, R. S. McDonald and Jason Eaby are all working at the flat track as exercise boys.

## SHAKERAG HOUNDS

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A large Field met at Shakerag and moved off promptly behind Joint-Master Phil D. Christian at 8 o'clock sharp. We headed north toward the Baptist Church and drew our first covert about 300 yards east of the Church and hounds struck immediately. Scent was very spotty and catchy and in about 30 minutes hounds finally got the line straightened out and literally flew past the Gilstrap property to a point southeast of Shakerag, where our point-to-point races used to be held. Here we had about a 10-minute check, high on a hill overlooking the Chattahoochee River while part of the pack was in the woods and the others were closer to the river.

When our huntsman suddenly exclaimed, "Hounds are going the other way, follow me", we were off at a steeplechase pace for a distance of about 3 miles. We went at break neck speed and it would have done any Master's heart good to see our "young fry" riding like veteran jockeys. We crossed the bridge at Gilstrap's where the cement block and culverts are made. We swung sharp to the right and went on for about another mile. As we arrived, hounds were crossing the road right in front of us.

There are no paved roads within 5 miles of this place. We fell right back of our pilot taking the right, up over the hill and through a large woods where we were joined by a loose mule. He decided he liked our company and he joined us for about a half hour and we kept on going due north, finally coming to a lake. Hounds swam to the left side of the lake and we tried to follow them, but were cut off by soft ground and had to go around. In doing so, we lost hounds.

It was now about 10:30 and the horses were lathered. We could not figure where hounds had disappeared to. After about 15 minutes' checking, Bolie Brannon came and told us hounds had run the fox to the ground about a half-mile from where we were. Our Joint-Master, Oliver Healey, his wife and Mrs. Helen Hede-kin were there ahead of the Field. From a nearby house where people live who raise broilers for the tremendous Gainesville Broiler Chicken Market we borrowed a pick and shovel. After about an hour we had the fox out and hounds were off after him. They rolled him over in about 10 minutes.

Those who were on the hunt for their first kill were initiated in due ancient form. They were Miss Joan Dodd and Dr. Urton Munn, honorary whippers-in; Miss Lynn Ford, Miss Barbara Butler and Mrs. H. M. Smith. The mask, brush and pads were distributed to the persons who reached the scene first.—Dudley Fort

## ONE MISSING

In our Hunt Meeting and U. S. Track tabulation under the leading sires The Chronicle had Battleship listed with the correct number of victories (16). Somewhere along the line Cap-A-Pie was omitted. He is by Battleship and scored two victories.

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